

AFGHANISTAN REPORT

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**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM
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1. The Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team comprises of leading academicians, strategists, researchers and policy analysts interested in the study of international relations. The members of this team meet periodically in groups; one team is devoted to the study of the Afghan crisis and conflict. In the light of carefully monitored information each group reviews current developments in its respective conflict area, and offers various policy options for consideration. While the Institute of Strategic Studies provides the forum, coordinates research and publishes the findings of the Crisis and Conflict Analysis Team, it does not necessarily share the views expressed by the team members whose participation in this group is in their individual capacity.

2. The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, collation, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all the parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Afghan, Soviet, and other Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Documentation Centre, Afghan Information Centre, the Afghan Islamic Press, and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are aware of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up in the Mujahideen, as present in regular armies.

— Editor

AFGHANISTAN REPORT: MAY 1988

**IJAZ S. GILANI
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ACRONYMS

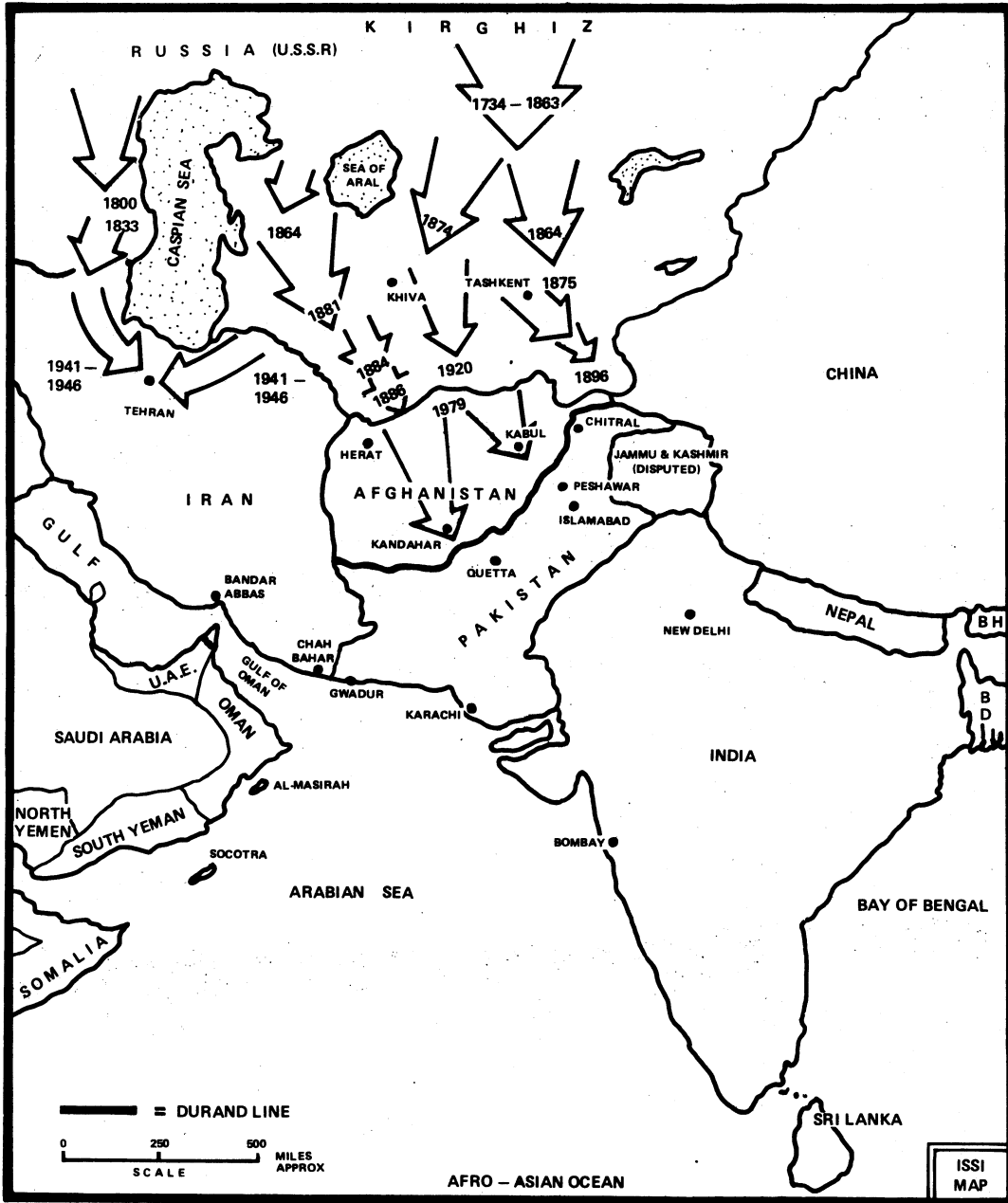
AAP	=	Agency Afghan Press (Mujahideen).
AAPSO	=	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization.
AAWC	=	All Afghanistan's Women Council.
ADBA	=	Agricultural Development Bank of Afghanistan.
ALA	=	Association of Lawyers of Afghanistan.
APC	=	Armoured Personnel Carrier.
CC	=	Central Committee.
CP	=	Communist Party.
RA	=	Republic of Afghanistan.
DYOA	=	Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan.
HIS	=	Haqiqat-e-Inqilab-e-Saur ('The Truth of the Saur Revolution'), daily newspaper.
HMV	=	Heavy Military Vehicles.
IHT	=	International Herald Tribune.
ICRC	=	International Committee of the Red Cross.
KHAD	=	State Secret Service.
KT	=	The Kabul Times.
LOSPA	=	Local Organs of State Power and Administration.
NF	=	National Front.
NVDP	=	Ningarhar Valley Development Project.
NRP	=	National Reconciliation Policy.
PDPA	=	Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan.
POA	=	Pioneers Organization of Afghanistan.
PSFO	=	Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization.
RC	=	Revolutionary Council.
SAFS	=	Soviet Afghan Friendship Society.
TUA	=	Trade Unions of Afghanistan.
UJA	=	Union of Journalists of Afghanistan.
UNESCO	=	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization.
UNGA	=	United Nations General Assembly.
VFA	=	Voice of Free Afghanistan.
VOA	=	Voice of America.
VOG	=	Voice of Germany.
VOIR	=	Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (reportedly based in Iran).
WDS	=	Western Diplomatic Sources.
WHO	=	World Health Organization.
YPO	=	Young Pioneer's Organization.
'Jehad'	=	To strive, struggle, resist, fight against, as an article of Faith. One of the main tenets of Islam.
'Mujahideen'	=	Those who take part in Jihad against oppression and aggression, as an article of faith.
'Jirga'	=	Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Loi Jirga'	=	National Assembly of Tribal Elders.
'Afghanis'	=	Afghan Currency.

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THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



I.— THE FOURTH AFGHAN WAR

1 — SUMMARY PERSPECTIVE (see map Appendix 7)

Mujahideen sources reported 261 incidents in 27 out of 30 Afghan provinces during April 1988. Both Mujahideen and Radio-Kabul sources were silent on conflict in Balkh and Sar-e-pul Provinces.

Of the total 261 military engagements 48 were Mujahideen strikes on mobile targets and 137 strikes against immobile targets. Soviet-Kabul forces conducted atleast 51 air and 25 ground strikes against Mujahideen's fixed positions and mobile groups. Urban conflict was reported from the metropolis Kabul and 16 Provincial Capitals. Significant Urban activity was reported from Bamiyan, Kabul, Ghazni and Kunduz. The highest intensity of conflict was reported from Parwan, Ningarhar and Kunar followed by Kabul, Zabul and Qandahar Provinces.

A noteworthy feature of the month of April was that the Soviet-Kabul forces did not undertake any serious ground, or air, operations in the 10 provinces sharing border with the Soviet Union. They were also passive in the 2 central provinces of Ghor and Uruzgan.

Radio Kabul reported 39 engagements in 11 provinces. These included 18 operations by the Afghan Security forces and 21 "Subversive acts by counter revolutionary elements".

Elections Disrupted

Mujahideen attacked polling stations at various Urban Centres. Mujahideen's attacks in Ghazni city, April 4 to 9 forced the authorities to postpone polling. Similarly, Mujahideen raided a polling centre in Imam Sahib district, Kunduz province, on April 6.

Radio Kabul reported on April 6, that "since the start of election, ... extremists have been shelling the residential areas of Kunar province. There was also a recurrence of the extremists...action in some areas in this province today (April 6)". The official Radio reported attacks on election centres in Kohistan district of Kapisa and Asadabad city of Kunar on April 9 and in Maimana city on April 10. Lately the Capital Kabul witnessed a number of explosions and rocket attacks. Mujahideen rocketed PDPA headquarters in Kabul city on April 18. Radio Kabul reported that Security Forces had foiled attempts at subversion by extremist elements in Kabul Province on March 29, 31 and April 18 to 25.

The authors wish to acknowledge the assistance provided by the Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad in the preparation of this monthly report.

Attacks on regime officials

Radio Kabul in its April 12 Pushto News bulletin reported the demise of Brigadier General Shah Aqa after "extremist" attacked him near Pole matak on his way to Kabul.

An attempt was also reported to have been made on the life of Interior Minister Gulabzoy. It was not clear whether this was done by the Mujahideen or political adversaries of Gulabzoy within the ruling junta.

Gulabzoy is a member of the Khalqi faction.

Mujahideen reported killing of 2 "officers of battalion" posted in Karar district of Parwan.

Mujahideen killed Latif Razamju, Director of Khad's 14th division military wing and Mohammad Sharif, Director Surveillance, in Ghazni on April 6. Eight other Khad agents were also killed.

Mujahideen arrested 3 Khad agents in Dorebab, Ningarhar on March 29.

Mujahideen in Kunduz claimed that they had arrested the Police Chief and the Governor of Kunduz on April 7. No names were mentioned, though.

Mujahideen killed a Soviet advisor in Qila-e-Nau, Badghis, on April 5.

Saur celebrations disturbed

The April 27 Saur Revolution celebrations were disturbed by Mujahideen attacks in various Afghan provinces. Radio Kabul reported that "extremist elements" fired mortar shells and missiles at Maimana city and Pushtoon Kot district. Regime sources claimed that attempts at sabotage were foiled by the security forces in Kabul and Logar provinces.

Earlier Kabul Times reported that "On the eve of the new Afghan year, the extremists attacked with rockets the residential areas of Herat and Ningarhar provinces".

2 — MAJOR MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS

Soviet Troops Movement in Afghanistan

Observers of the Afghanistan conflict have noted that over the last few months Soviet military supplies to Qandahar and Kabul have increased considerably. Soviet transport vehicles have been pouring in military supplies into Qandahar via Merv-Torghundi-Herat route in the west. Supplies to Kabul are sent mainly via Bander Sher Khan-Kunduz route on the Salang highway.

There are also report that new concrete bunkers are being built at certain points in Kabul, Pakiya and Paktika provinces and around Bagram airbase in Parwan province.

Large quantities of ammunition, fuel and food are being stockpiled in Qandahar. This build-up and construction of defensive positions around large cities evidently indicates that they may be anticipating Mujahideen attacks during and after the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Reports indicated that Soviet troops had withdrawn from some outposts in farflung areas and are concentrating on the main highways and major military bases. Soviet troops were withdrawn from some posts in Hilmand, Kapisa and Parwan provinces.

On April 21 Soviet Kabul troops abandoned Barikot garrison in Kunar province. On April 22 Soviet troops left Maroof district of Qandahar province. In Zabul province, Soviet troops were called off from Athgher. Also in late April, Soviet troops vacated their positions in Laghman province, in Baharak subdistrict of Badakhshan province, Rustaq district of Takhar and Samarkhel area of Ningarhar province.

A Mujahideen Commander conjectured that the Soviet troops would now concentrate their forces on defending major roads and cities at least till the time they complete their withdrawal.

Reports indicated that 2 Soviet columns moved into the Logar valley, South of Kabul, recently, presumably to stop a Mujahideen buildup in the area which might lead to greater pressure on the capital than they were prepared to accept.

Recent Mujahideen Activity

On their part Mujahideen say that the more pressure they build while the Soviets are still present in the country, the less Afghan blood would be shed in future. Mujahideen feel that their mounting attacks on military positions would demoralize Kabul troops. The Kabul troops, they feel, will have no legs to stand on once Soviet troops leave.

On March 20, Mujahideen captured Panjwai district in Qandahar. On March 24 Sangeen district in Hilmand was taken. On March 28 Mujahideen attacked security posts in Nazian and Ghanikhel area of Ningarhar province. On April 9 Mujahideen claimed gaining control of Shehr Ghulghlah of Bamiyan province. On April 10 Ghorband district of Parwan province was captured by Mujahideen.

In April the Mujahideen gained control on Darwazagai garrison in Hilmand. Barikot (Kunar) fell to the Mujahideen on April 21 and Maroof (Qandahar) on April 22.

Parwan Province

Ghorband district continued to witness fierce clashes in April 1988. The district is important because of its strategic location along the Salang Highway.

Kabul troops launched a major attack on March 28 with the objective of reinforcing the besieged garrison in Ghorband. The campaign continued till April 15 on April 12 Kabul troops under the command of Major General Sha Agha were attacked by Mujahideen near Pul-e-Matak on the Salang highway. The same day Radio Kabul reported that Shah Agha had been killed. Soviet built aircraft subjected the rural population of the area to severe bombardment for several days.

Ningarhar

Mujahideen attacked mobile units of Kabul troops at Gora Patta, Dorebaba March 28-29. Mujahideen attacked military fortifications in Nazian and Ghanikhel and mobile troops on April 8. Mujahideen mounted attacks on military positions in Ningarhar. On 27th April. They also attacked the military camp in Bamool.

Security Situation in Ningarhar Province

The Kabul regime invited some 50 foreign journalists to witness the 10th Saur Revolution celebrations. However 4 Pakistani journalist travelling by road could not make it to Kabul because the road was blocked by the Mujahideen wrote the daily Muslim on May 6. The author of the article said that these journalist were denied permission to leave their hotel as curfew was clamped on Jalalabad city. Even a local journalist working for Kabul weekly "Dehqan", who visited Pakistani pressmen in the night could not go back to his home. He spent the night in the hotel.

Nusrat Jawed, another journalist wrote in the Nation, May 2, that "On reaching Torkham the Party was stuck for three days. Mujahideen continued pounding the Afghan territory with artillery". The Khad Chief of Jalalabad city told a PDPA official that the only way to go to Kabul was by air. However, no planes could leave Jalalabad either, in the day time, due to the fear of stingers.

3 — PROVINCEWISE SURVEY ANALYSIS

Provinces Bordering Pakistan

Nimroz (also bordering Iran)

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked camping grounds of

Kabul Army Regiment Number 5 in Zaranj on April 13, killing 20 Soviet-Kabul troops. Three tanks were also destroyed.

VIRA: Mujahideen in Nimroze province attacked security posts of the Kabul troops and captured four security posts. Heavy losses in men and material were inflicted on the communists.

A tank, a truck and a military jeep were destroyed while 5 Kabul troops with their arms and ammunition joined the ranks of the Afghan Mujahideen. (News Persian: April 16, 1988).

Radio Tehran: The Muslim Afghan revolutionaries in their continuing struggle against the Soviet-Kabul forces, inflicted heavy losses in men and material on the enemy troops in an operation in Zarang area of Nimroz Province. Similarly, they mounted an attack on military headquarters of the government troops in the same Province killing 3 and capturing 8 soldiers. (News Urdu, Pushto: April 29, 1988).

Helmand

Mujahideen sources: March 22: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul troops near Lashkargah. More than 20 troops killed and 2 tanks destroyed.

"Late March": Mujahideen conduct 'Joint attacks' in Sangin district. Ultimately, the district was 'conquered'. Over 250 Soviet-Kabul troops killed and a large number captured. A large quantity of arms and ammunition also fell to Mujahideen.

A number of military posts were also captured by Mujahideen near Nawa Majra and Grishik city. A soviet fighter and 2 helicopters shot down in Sangin area. On April 14, Soviet-Kabul troops counter-attacked to regain control of Sangin district, but failed. In the fighting they lost a tank and 3 personnel carriers. Thirty Kabul army men were captured by the Mujahideen.

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen have destroyed an ammunition depot of the Soviet-Afghan forces in Lashkargah city of Helmand province and inflicted heavy casualties on Soviet-Afghan forces.

VOA: Soviet-made fighter planes have bombarded southern Afghanistan for four days in which several citizens and Mujahideen have been killed. Here is Salahuddin Ahmed with details of the report sent by VOA correspondent Irfan Ghazi. Besides the air attacks, reports have been received that Soviet forces in large number have started moving towards southern Afghanistan with the intention to besiege Mujahideen's positions. Afghan resistance movement sources in border town of Pakistan, Quetta, say that atleast 55 villagers and Mujahideen have been killed in Soviet planes bombardment on Sangeen district of Helmand province. A local Mujahideen Commander Bahlol has reported

that 60 houses in different villages of the area have been destroyed and a large number of others damaged. However, these reports could not be confirmed from independent sources.

According to reports, these air raids started after March 23 when the Mujahideen had captured the Sangeen district. It is reported that Mujahideen units comprising over 2000 fighters captured 33 posts of Communist Militia after two-day fierce fighting. The sources say that the Mujahideen forces also captured three tanks, heavy machine guns, a heavy anti-aircraft gun, five guns, four mortars, three hundred rifles, small weapons, ammunition and food items.

The message of Commander Bahlol was received on March 27. It said that immediately after the Mujahideen's operation, the Soviet planes started bombardment. The message also said that the bombardment also destroyed most of the irrigation channels in the area.

Diplomatic circles have also reported acceleration in activities of Mujahideen and some gains in other parts of Afghanistan during the last week. However, the communist troops have succeeded in reaching Bande Kazaki on Hilmand River in Hilmand province and they have re-commissioned power house there. (April 19, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Another report says that the vigilant Afghan Security forces wiped out an arms depot of the terrorists in Hilmand province. (News Pushto: April 10, 1988).

The Military Section of BIA reports that an armed extremist group who, after crossing the border, intended to wage war and bloodshed in the surroundings of Garmsir district, Hilmand province, were recently crushed by the border guards. The report adds that as a result of this action 10 light machineguns, 1 rocket launcher, and 1 heavy machinegun, together with thousands of pounds of ammunition were seized by the border guards (Domestic Service in Dari: April 13, 1988).

Qandahar

Mujahideen sources: 24 March: Mujahideen attack RA troops in Arghandab district.

26 March: Mujahideen continue attacks on RA troops in Arghandab district.

Twelve government soldiers killed and 15 taken prisoner.

25-26 March: Three security posts wiped out near Pak-Afghan border town of Spin Buldak. A number of Kabul soldiers killed and an armoured vehicle destroyed.

27 March: Mujahideen frustrate a Soviet-Kabul attempt to dislodge Mujahideen from Panjwai town, SW of Qandahar city. The attacking unit left behind wreckage of 2 armoured vehicles.

Mujahideen fired rockets on security posts near Taimurian township on 5 April a tank and an armoured vehicle were destroyed.

7 April: Mujahideen shoot down 2 helicopters in Daman area (near Qandahar city). The helicopters were carrying troops to Shakoor Karez area when hit with rockets.

12 April: Mujahideen attack security posts of Sari Qila inside Qandahar city. A tank destroyed.

13 April: Mujahideen attack a military convoy near Spin Buldak. A tank destroyed. Mujahideen captured a mobile trailer, a jeep and some small arms.

14 April: A mobile Soviet-Kabul force attacks Mujahideen at Shah Agha Doraha in Arghandab subdivision. Both sides suffered casualties.

14-22 April: Mujahideen bring to bear heavy pressure on Soviet-Kabul forces in the Maroof district.

The garrison in Maroof town was evacuated by helicopters. Soviet-Kabul troops also moved out from a checkpost at Aurang near Spin Buldak on Pak-Afghan border.

VIRA: Muslim Mujahideen, after liberating the Panjwai Wolesswali and strengthening their bases, they have brought the area under their full control (April 1, 1988).

Afghan Mujahideen in Panjwai Wolesswali of Qandahar province destroyed eight Soviet tanks. In the operation 90 Kabul troops were also made captive by the Mujahideen. (April 4, 1988).

According to reports from Qandahar province, the Afghan Mujahideen attacked a military convoy of the Soviet-Kabul troops last week.

The report says, in the attack, five Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a tank was destroyed. Besides, a huge quantity of arms was captured by the Afghan Mujahideen.

According to another report, the Afghan Mujahideen attacked the positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops inside Qandahar city killing four Soviet-Kabul troops and injuring a number of others.

The report says that in the attack, a military jeep was set on fire and all the persons on board were killed. (News Persian: April 25, 1988).

Radio Tehran: During another operation in Qandahar province, a helicopter of Kabul government was shot down by the Afghan Muslim freedom fighters and all the people on board were killed. (News Urdu: April 20, 1988).

Radio Zahidan: According to Mujahideen sources, in their operations last month, the Mujahideen damaged the Radio and Television building in Qandahar. The Soviet-Kabul forces sustained heavy loss in men and material in this attack. (April 14, 1988).

BBC: The Afghan Government is reported to have evacuated two more military bases in the south of the country. The latest pull out follows the evacuation of the garrison in Barikot in the east. In this report from neighbouring Pakistan George Arney says the move is apparently a strategic one by the Kabul Government.

The two garrisons of Marouf and Adghar are about 30 miles from the Pakistani border and 50 miles apart. The first to be abandoned was Marouf, which had a population of about 800 people including regular armed troops, militia-men, Party officials and local administrators. Guerilla radio reports say that dozens of helicopters flew into Marouf on Friday morning to evacuate the defenders to Qandahar, Afghanistan's second biggest city.

On Saturday evening, they say they captured a large militia base at Spin Bolduk, a few miles from the Pakistani border. There is no doubt that the guerillas have intensified their operations since the Geneva accord was signed ten days ago. But the evacuation of three other garrisons in the space of 48 hours also suggests that the Kabul Government is deliberately shortening its lines of supply and defence in preparations for the Soviet troops withdrawal. (Newsreel English: April 25, 1988).

VOA: In Afghanistan, Mujahideen resistance units are reported to have carried out a series of successful attacks against the Qandahar airport and against Afghan government forces South of the city. From Islamabad VOA's Correspondent, John Shultz reports that fresh fighting is going on in Zabul Province near the Pakistani border:—

The Mujahideen attacks, all took place between the 1st and 3rd of April, and details of the action are just reaching the Pakistani border city of Quetta. On April 3rd combined Mujahideen units hit the airport North-East of the city where large numbers of Soviet troops are housed and where huge fuel and supply build-up has been going on recently. The Mujahideen say they destroyed one Soviet-built helicopter on the ground and heavily damaged a number of buildings and installations. On the 1st and 2nd of April they killed forty Afghan Government troops in the process. In one of these attacks using the devastatingly powerful BM-12 rockets they report heavy damage on an Afghan Army base including the destruction of an ammunition dump and two tanks. Mujahideen say they left three killed and four wounded in those actions. (April 2, 1988).

In Qandahar, Afghanistan Mujahideen units have completely disrupted the Afghan-Communist government's attempt to hold its version of national assembly elections. From Islamabad VOA's John Shultz

has details on that action and other around Afghanistan's second largest city in recent days:—

When Najibullah government announced plans for voting from the 5th to the 14th of April most experts cautioned that the voters and the candidates will be highly screened and it would not be a genuinely democratic process. Now travellers arriving in Quetta say the Mujahideen attacked all eight voting centres in Qandahar city Tuesday seizing all the ballot boxes and smashing the premises. On April 3rd Mujahideen units helped by Muslim soldiers in the Afghan Communist army crept into the school building 150 metres from the Governor House. The school is being used by the militias. They captured large quantities of weapons and ammunition. They then set landmines around the building and blew it up along with large stocks of communist propaganda literature. On April 2nd and 3rd Mujahideen units hit two Soviet positions north of the city using heavy weapons they killed eight Soviet troops and wounded thirteen. By April 5th south of the city Mujahideen units completely over-ran a militia base killing 20 Afghan government militia soldiers and capturing large quantities of weapons. Though it could not be independently confirmed these incidents are the latest in a series and indicate a sharp increase in the frequency and intensity of fighting around Qandahar for more than a week now. (April 8, 1988).

Commanders of Mujahideen fighting in Qandahar in their separate messages have reported that Mujahideen attacks on all Soviet and Afghan Communist Army positions located in or outside Qandahar city continued on April 27. According to these reports at least fifteen Soviets and 25 Afghan troops were also killed in the encounters. Ten persons of Secret Police KHAD were also killed. Besides a number of tanks and military vehicles were also hit by the Mujahideen. Sources say that on April 28, a convoy of Afghan army was carrying military hardware from Qandahar airbase to Karezak garrison in the north when four Mujahideen groups unitedly carried out a raid, blowing up two tanks and two trucks. Sixteen Communist troops were killed while four injured. The sources say that one Mujahid lost his life and three injured in the attack. A Spokesman of Mahaz-e-Milli-e-Islami says that on the night of April 28, Mujahideen carried out an ambush on Shanzari base of Soviet Union in west of Qandahar city. Three Soviets were killed and several injured while one Mujahid was killed and three injured. Meanwhile, it has been confirmed by reports from Qandahar that Communist troops have pulled out of Shah Wali Kot garrison. Sources say that the troops deployed there have been airlifted to Hilmand province in

the east by helicopters where fighting is continuing for the last many weeks in Kajaki and Sangeen districts. Communists forces were in need of reinforcement there. On the other hand Shah Wali Kot is now under complete control of Mujahideen. (Radio Report Urdu: April 30, 1988).

Zabul

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen conquered the important Soviet-Kabul stronghold at Darwazgai about 25 kilometres from Pakistani border, on April 16 after several days of severe fighting.

Before the Mujahideen actually took possession of Darwazgai, Soviet-made helicopters had evacuated part of the garrison. Soon afterwards 4 fighters-bombers arrived and destroyed a number of buildings and bunkers in the area. They also blasted ammunition dumps.

VIRA: A report from Zabul province says that the Muslim Mujahideen carried out successful operations against the Communist carried out successful operations against the Communist troops in Darwazgai area. Ten officers of the enemy troops were killed and 20 injured. The Mujahideen also captured 50 other communist troops.

Afghan Mujahideen have intensified their struggle against the Communist troops, despite signing of the Geneva agreement between Pakistan and the Kabul Communist regime. (News Pushto: April 19, 1988).

VOA: The war in Afghanistan continues unabated despite last week's signing of the Geneva accord. Over the weekend combined Mujahideen units captured a key Communist garrison. VOA's John Shultz reports from Islamabad the fighting is said to have been particularly intense:—

A joint announcement by the seven party Afghan Mujahideen alliance in Peshawar says the garrison at Darwazgai in Zabul province fell after several days of fighting. The announcement also claims that they have captured a large quantity of weapons. The alliance's announcement late Sunday also says 50 Communist officers and men were captured Saturday and another thirty were killed. Ten Mujahideen were reported killed and 20 others wounded including two prominent commanders.

Several things make the announcement significant. The first is that joint alliance announcement on military affairs is still unusual. Second, the battle is said to have been going on since atleast March 22nd and earlier reports focussed on demolished communist positions and later on destroyed outposts. These earlier reports came through separate sources. Earlier also, wounded Mujahideen in a hospital at Quetta spoke of intense fighting and suicidal attacks on

April 9th against outposts around Darwazgai. On that day 16 Mujahideen were reported wounded. Darwazgai about 25 kilometres from the Pakistan border was an old hill-top castle, and was destroyed by Mujahideen last year. Communist forces then used the rubble to build deep bunkers and firing tips at a point which is critical for Mujahideen supply routes. Four major roads and twelve mountain passes all converge at Darwazgai. Mujahideen units surrounded the base and its outposts for weeks. (Newsline English: April 18, 1988).

Radio Kabul: According to another report from Zabul province its capital city, Qalat, became the target of the extremists surface-to-surface missiles on the night of 12 April. As a result, 2 people were injured, and 1 mosque and 10 houses seriously damaged. (Domestic Dari Service: April 13, 1988).

Ghazni

Mujahideen sources: 28 March: Soviet planes bombard Mujahideen positions in Sulgar sub-division. Fourteen houses destroyed.

29 March: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul security posts in and around Shulgar. Three bunkers destroyed at Khawaja Noor.

On 5 April: 105 Afghan Army conscripts deserted their training camp in Ghazni and joined Mujahideen. On 6 April, Mujahideen killed the director of the military wing of Khad of the 14th Division (Latif Razamju) along with another Khad official, in Ghazni city. On 8 April, Mujahideen attacked Ghazni airport complex which also accommodates some Soviet units. Huge fires were seen in the area after the rocket attack. A helicopter was believed to have been destroyed and a number of Soviet and Kabul regime soldiers killed. On April 15 and 17 Mujahideen attacked Soviet-Kabul troops in Ghazni city. On April 17, Mujahideen attacked a military convoy near Gailan town on the Kabul-Qandahar highway. Thirteen Soviet soldiers were killed or injured. A helicopter providing protection to the convoy was shot down.

Radio Tehran: Mujahideen attacked the Ghazni airport recently as a result of which eight Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a helicopter was destroyed.

Three KHAD activists were also killed by the Afghan Mujahideen in Ghazni. (News Persian: April 17, 1988).

VOA: Fighting is going on around Ghazni city. Mujahideen arrested two hundred troops during a recent attack on a division of government troops. (April 19, 1988).

Paktika

Mujahideen sources: The Soviet's seem to be reinforcing besieged cantonments and military camps in Paktika province with heavy arms and armoured vehicles. The Mujahideen attacked one of such columns near the provincial headquarters, Sharna, on March 29.

However, the supply convoy reached the Urgoon cantonment. Urgun has an airfield and is located 35 kilometres from Pakistan's border. (AAP: April 6, 1988).

AFP: Islamabad, March 23 (AFP): A Soviet Afghan force has broken a three-year rebel siege of Urgun in eastern Afghanistan, the pro-resistance Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) reported Wednesday. There had been heavy fighting inside the town since Saturday when a Soviet-Afghan convoy of some 600 tanks and trucks had finally fought its way to Urgun after suffering heavy losses on the road from Ghazni, AIP said. The Mujahideen killed 83 Soviet and Afghan troops and destroyed 42 tanks and military vehicles as the convoy spent six weeks covering the 40 kilometres (25 miles) from Ghazni, AIP said, putting guerrilla casualties at 13 dead and 25 wounded.

The Mujahideen had heavily mined the road, Western diplomats said here. The convoy left Ghazni in mid-February to re-supply the town, cut off in a region virtually under mujahideen control in eastern Afghanistan. Resistance sources confirmed that Soviet and Afghan troops had reached Urgun, adding that there was heavy fighting inside the town. The Soviet-Afghan break through to Urgun followed a similar operation to re-supply the larger garrison town of Khost in January, which had been under rebel siege for eight years, observers said. The Soviet-Afghan relief force later withdrew back down the road from Khost, observers noted.

The operation to re-supply Urgun was part of a plan to keep the Mujahideen off balance in the run-up to an expected Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan, they added. AIP also reported that Mujahideen guerrillas had captured two posts in Shagah in Paktia Province bordering Pakistan, inflicting heavy casualties. In Ningarhar Province, guerrillas had captured four military posts in the past two weeks, killing about 110 Soviet and Afghan troops, AIP said. The guerillas lost 14 men in the fighting. (Hong Kong AFP in English: March 23, 1988).

Paktiya

Mujahideen sources: 23 March: Mujahideen attack military installations in and around Khost cantonment.

25 March: Mujahideen shoot down an aircraft while it was bombarding Mujahideen positions near Khost city.

Two tanks destroyed on the "Khost Front".

27 March: Mujahideen fire rockets on a "radar post" near Khost city.

Mujahideen capture an "Indian pilot", identified Bhagwan Singh, when his aircraft was shot down near Khost city.

28 March: Mujahideen fire rockets on Khost airport. A tank destroyed.

29 March: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul 'army centre' at Torghar, Killing 20 regime soldiers. Five Mujahideen were also killed.

On 4 April, 10 Afghan army soldiers joined Mujahideen ranks near Khost city. On 7 April, Mujahideen killed 8 troops, including an officer in the same area. They also destroyed a tank and two other vehicles. On 10 April, Mujahideen ambushed a convoy near Allah Akbar and 2 tanks, 3 armoured vehicles and a trailer, along with 18 troops, were seized.

Mujahideen centres of Al Fatah, Markaz Jadeed and Jehadwal were bombarded by Soviet-Kabul aeroplanes on April 11 and 15. Four Mujahideen were killed and 17 injured.

Mujahideen attacked a security post near Bak. Three Kabul troops were killed and 2 mortar guns, one wireless set and some other arms and ammunition were seized.

Radio Tehran: An aircraft was shot down while flying on the Khost city. Seven Soviet-Kabul troops were also killed and a number of others injured in Khost city. The Afghan Mujahideen also destroyed a truck and an oil tanker. (April 2, 1988).

The Afghan Muslim Mujahideen have prevented concentration of Soviet-Afghan troops at a military base in Paktiya province. According to the report, in a series of operations, the Afghan Muslim Mujahideen have inflicted heavy casualties on the Soviet-Afghan troops besides capturing 16 others in an attack on an armoured unit in Paktiya province. According to the report, 7 soldiers of the Kabul regime joined the ranks of the Mujahideen before these operations. (April 7, 1988).

A major offensive launched by the Soviet-Kabul troops on the positions of the Afghan Mujahideen in Jaji just after the signing of Geneva agreement was met with stiff resistance by the Afghan Mujahideen. After a fierce battle the Soviet-Kabul troops were forced to retreat after suffering heavy losses in men and material. (April 14, 1988).

VOA: Afghan resistance forces say they have killed ten government soldiers in rocket attacks against Afghan military posts near the Pakistan border. (April 16, 1988).

AFP: Soviet troops were also preparing to withdraw from positions in Paktia Province bordering Pakistan, diplomats said, adding that res-

possibility for bases in neighbouring Logar Province had already been transferred to Kabul. In Paktia Province the mujahideen now have unchallenged positions in the Sate-Kandau Gorge on the Gardez-Khost highway and in areas of the newly created Sar-e-Pul Province, the diplomats said. (April 5, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Seven hundred and seven families of our compatriots who were living in Pakistan have returned to their homeland in the light of the national reconciliation programme. The returnees belong to Paktia province. After providing them with essential commodities they were shifted to their respective areas. (News Urdu: April 19, 1988).

KNT: Thanks to the vigilance of the security forces, another plot of the enemy was foiled in Paktia. The extremist had planted mines on the road from Mirzaka to Gardez city. (March 31, 1988).

Radio Moscow: Another 460 Afghan families returned to the provinces of Loghar and Paktia. People's Government bodies provided them with essentials and transport to take them to places of permanent residence. (April 14, 1988).

Ningarhar

Mujahideen sources: 19 March: Mujahideen attack military installations near Lalpura, destroying 2 tanks and killing 15 militiamen.

28 March: Mujahideen attack security post at Gora Patta. A tank destroyed.

29 March: Mujahideen capture 3 'KHAD agents' in Dore Baba area. The agents were on their way to Pakistan for 'subversive activities'.

Mujahideen conduct raids on military camps in Nazian and Ghani-khel. A number of tanks and other military vehicles were knocked out and installations damaged.

On 7 April, a tank and a truck were destroyed during skirmishes southeast of Jalalabad city. On 8 April, a number of 'Russians' and a local militia commander were killed when they hit a landmine planted by the Mujahideen outside a Soviet-manned post in Daulat Zay area.

On 15 April, Soviet jet planes bombarded apparently inadvertently an Afghan militia posts in Speena Boora area. Four militiamen were killed and 7 injured. Soviet aircraft also bombed and shelled civilians in Hagum sub district. A number of local resident were killed. On 21 April a large Soviet military convoy was seen leaving Samarkhel (on Pakistan border) for Jalalabad. It consisted of hundreds of tracked and wheeled vehicles. Traffic on the Torkham-Jalalabad road was stopped for many hours.

Radio Tehran: The Afghan Mujahideen early last week, killed 160

Communist troops during their operations in Ningrahar and Faryab provinces. (News Urdu: April 29, 1988).

Fifteen persons have been killed and another 25 wounded near the Pakistani border as a result of clashes between the Afghan Army and Afghan Mujahideen. (April 29, 1988).

VOA: A big Soviet convoy arrived in Jalalabad on April 14. It was the day when the agreement for the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, was signed in Geneva.

Eye-witnesses, reaching Peshawar say the convoy had brought a large quantity of arms and ammunition. They particularly referred to trucks-loads of three metre-long rockets. The sources say the convoy later left for Sanakhel, 25 kilometre in the east of Jalalabad. Sanakhel is a big Soviet military base where weapons like guns, rifles and helicopter gunships are stored in large quantity. This Soviet garrison keeps a watch over Mujahideen military operations in Laghman, Ningrahar and Kunar provinces. (Radio Report Urdu: April 19, 1988).

A significant change has taken place in the atmosphere in Kabul. Many citizens think that bloody fighting will take place in and outside the city after the withdrawal of Soviet forces from the capital and it will be decisive one. Well informed Indian and East European diplomats say that the Soviet troops will first of all leave Jalalabad. (April 19, 1988).

Radio Kabul: A group of armed extremists which entered our country in order to disrupt the peaceful life of our compatriots was discovered and seized by the security forces of Ningrahar Province yesterday in the Tor Ghar area. The military section of the BIA reports that the seized arms consisted of ground-to-ground missiles, a recoilless gun, a mortar, a rocket launcher, assorted arms, and thousands of cartridges.

Kunar

Mujahideen sources: 2 April: Hundreds of Mujahideen groups are seen along a 60 miles long stretch in Kunar valley as if preparing for some big operation.

The provincial headquarter, Assadabad, attacked with rockets.

9 April: A large Soviet-Kabul convoy attacked in Khas Kunar area while it was moving up from Jalalabad, Ningrahar, into the Kunar river valley to Assadabad. Approximately 25 tanks and other vehicles were hit.

18 April: Mujahideen launch largescale attacks on the Barikot cantonment.

22 April: Mujahideen enter the Barikot cantonment after 4 days

of fierce fighting.

The mujahideen entered its fortifications at about one O clock in the after noon. Barikot is situated near Pakistani border. It connects the Nari and Kamdesh districts and was the headquarters of the 55th Brigade of the Kabul regime. This highly fortified garrison with extensive underground facilities was protected round-the-clock by Infantry and Commando Battalions. The Soviet-Kabul airforce shelled and bombed Barikot and dozens of houses were destroyed.

BBC: Afghan guerillas say they have taken over an Afghan army garrison at Barikot near the border with Pakistan after it was abandoned by government troops.

Guerilla sources in Islamabad say upto eight hundred Government soldiers were evacuated by helicopters while the Afghan airforce bombed the besieging forces. The soldiers are said to have destroyed their barracks, tanks and ammunition before they left. According to the sources some of the government forces refused to be evacuated and defected to the guerilla side while others crossed into Pakistan. The guerillas say the aerial bombardment continued after the evacuation and atleast 7 people were killed. The base had been besieged by the guerillas since 1986 and the BBC correspondent in Islamabad says that the government in Kabul decided that the Barikot garrison was simply too vulnerable to carry on defending. (News English: April 23, 1988).

The Afghan leader President Najib has confirmed that guerilla forces have taken over an army post at Barikot near the border with Pakistan following a two-year siege. Government troops were yesterday reported to have abandoned the post after destroying their barracks, tanks and ammunition. President Najib talking to American correspondents denied that the move was a defeat for the army. (News English: April 24, 1988).

VOA: In the Eastern Kunar province of Afghanistan, Communist forces have vacated Barikot garrison. This garrison was under the siege of Mujahideen. Afghan Islamic Press has reported that at about 10.00. a.m. on Friday some 35 to 40 helicopters landed at Barikot and carried away Communist troops alongwith entire militia personnel including their families. Four to five Soviet advisers were also among those fleeing the place. At present this report could not be confirmed from independent sources, but eye witnesses say that a convoy comprising some 700 vehicles which was seen moving towards Barikot, has changed its direction. A prominent leader of Afghan Mujahideen, Mohammad Yunus Khalis has described this report as correct because Mujahideen belonging to his party are present around Barikot.

Barikot is situated at a place adjacent to Pakistani border at the

bank of river Kunar where this river enters into Pakistani territory of Chitral. Mujahideen have been in complete control of high mountains located around this town for the last some years. During this long period Soviet-Afghan Communist forces made their utmost efforts to permanently open the road link to Barikot garrison. A big campaign of breaking the siege was launched last winter in which Soviet planes actively took part but the Mujahideen who were equipped with Stinger missiles shot down many planes. That campaign met with failure. Last week Mujahideen sources reported from Ningarhar province that a big military caravan comprising some 700 tanks and other vehicles alongwith Soviet-Afghan troops was proceeding towards Barikot from Jalalabad under air cover. (April 23, 1988).

Radio Kabul: The Bakhtar military reporter reports that extremist armed groups once again revealed their ugly faces by firing rockets at residential areas in Kunar Province. The report says that as a result of rockets fired at villages in the districts of Sowki and Sarkani two of our compatriots were killed and two others were wounded. Some houses were partially damaged. The wounded were immediately transferred to the provincial hospital, where their condition is reported to be improving. (Domestic Service in Dari: April 2, 1988).

The Defence Wing of Bakhtar News Agency reports that a group of professional terrorists, which was operating in the outskirts of Kunar province, was wiped out by vigilant security forces of that province. (News Pushto: April 5, 1988).

Provinces Bordering USSR

Badakhshan (also bordering Pakistan)

Mujahideen sources: A Soviet helicopter attacked a Jumma (Friday congregational) meeting in a mosque in Jurm district killing 17 and injuring 25 others on 15 April.

Radio Tehran: The Soviets have withdrawn their troops from Baharak sub-district of Badakhshan and Rustaq district of Takhar provinces. (April 30, 1988).

Takhar

Mujahideen sources: On 8 April Mujahideen attacked two security posts of Qarya Khawaja Bahauddin in Sub-division Yangi Qila. One of the post commanders and several others were injured. Twelve Kabul soldiers captured. The Mujahideen dynamited the buildings.

Radio Tehran: According to another report the Mujahideen of Taluqan Woleswali of Takhar province attacked a military post of the

Soviet-Kabul troops and destroyed the post while 15 Soviet-Kabul troops deployed on that post were also killed. (April 4, 1988).

BBC: In neighbouring Afghanistan, anti-Government rebels have shot down a Soviet aircraft. All those on board were killed. This report from Martin Sixsmith in Moscow:—

According to the Soviet news agency Tass, the plane was a civilian passenger aircraft travelling between two cities in northern Afghanistan. Tass said the plane, an Antonov-26 of the type used by the Soviet Union for short distance flights in the area, was carrying 23 passengers and six crew, when it was hit by a ground-to-air missile. All those on board died in the crash. Soviet aircraft on internal flights in Afghanistan have been favourite targets for the anti-Government rebels. Last September, another Antonov-26 was shot down with the loss of 13 lives. And Moscow claims that the attacks have been carried out with Stinger missiles supplied to the rebels by the United States. The latest incident coming so soon after Mr. Gorbachev announced the firm date for Soviet troops withdrawal is confirmation of the Mujahideen determination to continue fighting, despite the so-called peace accord agreed in Geneva and would serve as a worrying reminder for Moscow of the vulnerability of the Kabul regime, once its Soviet protectors have left. (Newsreel English: April 11, 1988).

Kunduz

Mujahideen sources: 24 March: Mujahideen attack a military convoy near Khanabad. Eight regime soldiers killed against 2 Mujahideen.

28 March: Mujahideen attack security post in Qasem Ali village, west of Kunduz city, killing 6 regime soldiers.

On 6 April, Mujahideen attacked a polling centre in Imam Sahib district. On 7 April, Mujahideen captured the governor of Kunduz and his Police Chief, by stratagem. They were taken to the liberated territory. On 11 April, Mujahideen ambushed a convoy carrying supplies south towards Kabul from river port Sher Khan. Mujahideen made away with 5 trucks and an estimated 40 tons of wheat. On 16 April, Mujahideen attacked regime establishments in Kunduz city. The Soviets replied with shelling of some suburban localities with longrange guns. Seven houses demolished.

Radio Tehran: In an operation the Afghan Mujahideen captured the Kabul regime Governor of Kunduz alongwith his two body-guards last week. Another report says that 100 Kabul regime troops deployed in a military base in Kunduz joined the ranks of the Afghan Mujahideen in the recent past. (April 27, 1988).

VOA: Reliable Afghan sources said that 600 Mujahideen reached near Kunduz city early this month and spread the rumour that they wanted to reconcile. Kunduz is situated on highway in northern Afghanistan which could be used for expected return of Soviet forces. According to the sources, when the Governor of Kunduz alongwith two high military officers and provincial Chief of Tsarandoy (Police) reached there for holding talks with the Mujahideen, they were whisked away. (April 19, 1988).

Baghlan

Mujahideen sources: 19-21 March: Mujahideen capture 12 Soviet-Kabul security posts and close the highway for traffic between Pule Khumri and Khanabad. They killed a large number of militiamen and capture atleast 52.

Mujahideen fire rockets on Soviet-Kabul troops camping near Baghlan city.

26 March: Mujahideen attack a water reservoir and an electric generation station in Pule Khumri area. Seven Soviet-Kabul soldiers killed.

27 March: Mujahideen kill 8 militiamen in Nawbahar, Andarab district.

29 March: Thirty militiamen taken prisoner in Kaltar Khana, Andarab valley.

31 March: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul positions over a wide area manned by the National Brigade Number 507. An officer and several regime soldiers join Mujahideen. Mujahideen attack a security post near Baghlan city. Mujahideen fire mortar shells on military installations in Pule Khumri.

On 7 April, a tank hit landmine planted by the Mujahideen on the highway between Baghlan city and Kunduz. On 9 April, urban guerillas shelled regime establishments in Baghlan city.

Samangan

(Nil report from all sources).

Balkh

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen killed 14 KHAD (secret service) "personnel" somewhere in Balkh province. A tank and an armoured personnel carrier were destroyed.

VIRA: The Afghan Mujahideen attacked the positions of the communist troops in Daulatabad Wolesswali, Balkh province during the month of Hoot as a result of which 10 communist troops were killed

while a huge quantity of arms was captured.

The report says that in another operation the Afghan Mujahideen of Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Afghanistan deployed in Mazar-e-Sharif attacked a security post of the Kabul troops in Mazar-e-Sharif and inflicted heavy losses in men and material. In the attack, 25 Klashinkovs were captured by the Mujahideen. (April 15, 1988).

TASS: Peace process in Afghanistan is successfully going on. In the past year 4,000 refugees returned to their native villages in Balkh province. More than 1,500 prisoners were released under the decree of amnesty and ceasefire protocols were signed with 16 armed groups with a total number of 795 people. Large credit for this should be given to National Reconciliation Commissions. 135 of them have been set up on Balkh province, Bakhtar News Agency Reported. (April 19, 1988).

Jozjan

(Nil report from all sources).

Faryab

Mujahideen sources: 20 March: Mujahideen attack regime establishments in Maimana city, killing 13 servicemen. The building of a police station also destroyed.

Early in April, Soviet forces were reported to have established some new security posts in Qaisar district close to the Afghan-Soviet border. This is an oil-bearing area.

Radio Tehran: Muslim Afghan Revolutionaries attacked with rockets a base of the Communist troops in Maimana city of Faryab province, damaging a building used by the secret service of the Kabul Government. During the operation 13 communists troops were killed and many others wounded. (April 22, 1988).

Radio Kabul: A group of armed terrorists shelled Maimana city recently. Bakhtar correspondent reports from Maimana city that 13 innocent people were martyred and 40 others injured in the shelling. (April 10, 1988).

At a time when peaceful people of Faryab are observing the tenth anniversary of the Saur Revolution, the extremist elements who are enemy of peace, by committing another unpardonable act, martyred and injured a number of our innocent compatriots. Military correspondent of Bakhtar news agency has reported that the extremist elements fired mortar shells and missiles at the populated areas of Maimana City and Pukhtoorkot Woleswali yesterday as a result of which three of our compatriots were killed and six others injured. (News Pushto: April

27, 1988).

Sar-e-pul

(Nil report from all sources).

Badghis

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked security posts in kala-e-Nau area on April 5, killing a number of people including a soviet adviser. 40 regime soldiers capitulated to them. Mujahideen seized a quantity of arms and ammunition.

VIRA: The Mujahideen attacked several military posts of the joint troops in Kala-e-Nau city of Badghis province. In these operations, four Soviet military advisers were killed and the posts of the enemy were captured. Twenty-four soldiers of the Kabul regime, were captured. (News Pushto: April 28, 1988).

Radio Kabul: Fourty-four Afghan families consisting of 203 members returned to their homes in various regions of Badghis province in response to the national reconciliation call. (April 1, 1988).

Provinces Bordering Iran

Herat (also bordering USSR)

Mujahideen sources: 19 March: Mujahideen capture 8 regime security posts in Darb Malik area, near the city of Herat. One tank and an armoured car were destroyed during fighting and 27 Kabuli soldiers killed. Mujahideen attack a textile mill and military installations in Injil district. A security post and 13 houses were destroyed.

28 March: Mujahideen ambush a convoy in village Baluch, Farsi district, killing 15 regime soldiers. Mujahideen commander, Ghulam Sakhi, was killed during this operation.

On 3 April, the Mujahideen attacked Soviet airbase at Shindand, destroying a security post on its peripheries. As the operation started 25 regime servicemen abandoned their positions and switched over to the Mujahideen side. They also brought to the Mujahideen lines a tank, a mortar gun, a large wireless set and 2 trucks. On 15 April, 10 KHAD officials were killed in Herat city in a clash with the Mujahideen.

VIRA: The Afghan Muslim Mujahideen attacked a military convoy of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Chah-e-Shereen area of Herat province and killed a number of the Communist troops. The report says that this military convoy was carrying military hardware to Herat city from the port of Torghandi. The Mujahideen destroyed one tank and one personnel carrier and captured a number of Communist troops and

members of the ruling PDPA. (News Pushto: April 8, 1988).

The Mujahideen attacked positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Qarabagh and Chah-e-Shereen of Herat area killing 12 enemy troops and capturing six members of KHAD. The Afghan Mujahideen also destroyed two tanks and three armoured vehicles of the Communist troops and captured five jeeps. (April 10, 1988).

The Afghan Mujahideen attacked the positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops near Herat city on the occasion of the holding of the so-called elections causing heavy losses. Similarly, the Mujahideen attacked a military truck of the Kabul troops near Herat city and as a result a number of persons on board were killed or injured. Another report from Herat says that in an attack, the Mujahideen destroyed a Soviet tank killing all the personnel on board. (News Persian: April 18, 1988).

Radio Tehran: On the occasion of holding of provincial elections in Herat city, the Afghan Mujahideen carried out an operation in Herat province blowing up the Soviet oil pipeline passing through West Afghanistan and destroyed a Soviet tank and a command jeep besides killing or injuring a number of communists. (April 17, 1988).

According to a report of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), in a Mujahideen operation against the positions of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Herat province the commander of Brigade-28 of Kabul regime was killed. The report says that in the operation which took place last week, two tanks, and armoured personnel carriers of the Kabul regime were destroyed. The report adds that another fierce combat took place between the Afghan Mujahideen and the Soviet-Kabul troops on the border area of Herat province. In the encounter 40 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a large number of others were injured. (News Persian: April 20, 1988).

VOA: The intensity of fighting in the far north west, in and around Herat city has been on the increase. Reports just reaching Quetta say that on April 1st Mujahideen hit the security posts west of the city completely destroying one and heavily damaging many more. (Newslines English: April 8, 1988).

KNT: On the eve of the new Afghan year, the criminal extremists attacked with rockets residential areas of Herat and Ningarhar provinces, killing some and injuring 17. Two ringleaders of the armed opposition groups, Juma Gul Pahlawan and Haji Abdul Baqi, were killed in an inter-gang armed clash in Herat following quarrels. (BIA, *KNT:* March 31, 1988).

Over 25 families consisting of 240 members returned home from Iran. Out of them, 10 families were transported to their home in Herat. (*KNT:* April 2, 1988).

Farah

Mujahideen sources: 23 March: Soviet-Kabul forces attack Mujahideen stronghold, Zeerak, 8 km from Farah. Both sides suffered casualties, but after a full day's fighting the invaders had to retreat.

28 March: Mujahideen attack security post near the border town of Khawabgah.

On 4 April, Mujahideen captured the subdivisional towns of Qila Kah and Khawke-Sufaid. Two tanks of Soviet-Kabul forces were destroyed and a large number of servicemen killed during the fighting. More than 20 Kabuli soldiers were captured. Soon after the falls of these localities, Soviet-made planes bombarded Qila Kah and villages in the neighbourhood. Seven Mujahideen and dozens of civilians were killed as a result of aerial bombing.

VIRA: Afghan Mujahideen after a series of clashes with the joint enemy troops liberated the Khawke-Sufaid Woleswali of Farah province on Hamal 15. In the course of fighting, 130 Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and a large number of others were made captive by the Muslim Mujahideen. (April 22, 1988).

Fighter planes of the Kabul regime heavily bombarded Kalakah area in Farah province recently. Scores of defenceless people were killed and injured. The Muslim Mujahideen in that area killed 12 government troops and made 20 others captive. Two tanks were also destroyed. (April 28, 1988).

Soviet-Afghan positions in Koh-e-Dasht area in Farah province were attacked by the Mujahideen. Eight tanks and armoured vehicles were destroyed and 36 Soviets killed and twelve others injured. Two Kabul troops including one officer joined the Mujahideen along with their weapons. (News Urdu: April 14, 1988).

VOA: It has been reported that Afghan Mujahideen have captured a town in Farah province having strategic importance. Nazakat Ali Khan presents details of report sent by VOA Islamabad correspondent, Irfan Ghazi:—

The Mujahideen sources reported in the Pakistani border city, Quetta that Mujahideen captured Khawke-Sufaid town on April 4, situated thirty kilometres in the north of western Afghan province of Farah. The report says that the fighting which took place in the area was one of the most fierce during the last nine years of Afghanistan war. More than 141 persons including 12 Mujahideen were killed in the fighting. The Mujahideen sources add that 21 Mujahideen were also wounded during the course of fighting. The report could not be confirmed through independent sources. However, Mujahideen sources say the success has a great

strategic importance for them because from here there was a safe access to the Soviet air base of Shindand through Khawk-e-Sufaid. It is reported that Mujahideen have also captured a huge quantity of arms, motor vehicles and foodgrains.

Sources said that the Mujahideen ambushed a Soviet convoy near Ghandad (ph) on Herat-Qandahar highway, two days before capturing Khawk-e-Sufaid town. Four Soviets were taken prisoners. (Radio Report Urdu: April 21, 1988).

Central Provinces

Bamiyan

Mujahideen sources: A determined Mujahideen assault to take the provincial Capital city, Bamiyan was thwarted by Soviet-Kabul defenders on April 2. More than 60 guerillas believed to have been killed in the fighting. A number of others were taken prisoner and flown to Kabul. It was believed that Soviet-Kabul authorities had got wind of the attack and were prepared for it when it came. Casualties on the Soviet-Kabul troops were also considerable, but could not be ascertained. However, on 9 April, the Mujahideen captured Ghulghulah township which commands some strategic importance according to resistance sources. Atleast one jet fighter and 2 tanks were destroyed during fierce fighting for Ghulghulah.

Radio Kabul: An armed extremist group which had been violating cease-fire conditions in Bamiyan province, where it carried out terrorist operations and looted properties, was recently crushed by provincial security forces. Bakhtar reports that the people of the villages Seyyedabad, Hydreabad, Joi Shur, Kalkrak, and Qarayak informed the security forces of Bamiyan province about the extremist group's presence in their villages after consultation with the National Reconciliation Commission. At the people's request the provincial security forces took action and asked the extremist group to lay down its arms. But the group persisted in its futile resistance by firing. The security forces retaliated to prevent its criminal acts. As a result the terrorist group and its leader were crushed. (Domestic Service in Pushto: April 26, 1988).

Ghor

Mujahideen sources: On 16 April, Mujahideen killed 30 Soviet-Kabul troops and demolished 2 buildings in the Toolak district.

Uruzgan

Mujahideen sources: On 23 March, the Mujahideen attacked a security post in Sarchashma area.

Kabul and Adjacent Provinces

Kabul

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attack Soviet-Kabul garrison at Qargha, killing 2 and injuring many servicemen. Mujahideen attack troops in Pule Charkhi area. Two vehicles destroyed. Likewise, Mujahideen fired on the ruling party offices in Sarobi subdivision.

26-27 March: Mujahideen fire missiles on Khairkhana and Qila Muradbeg killing several Soviet-Kabul troops and destroying 2 armoured vehicles.

28 March: Mujahideen explode bomb in the modern part of Kabul city, killing 11 persons, including Russians. More than 10 cars were destroyed. Mujahideen claimed having exploded another bomb in a shop.

On 4 April, Mujahideen fired four 122 mm ground-to-ground missiles. On Soviet-Kabul positions three Afghan army officers were killed in a bomb blast on the same day in a Customs checking post at Kabul airport. On 7 April, Mujahideen attacked several security posts in Shakardara, north of Kabul. On 18 April, Mujahideen fired rockets at the headquarters of the Afghan Communist Party in Kabul city. On 19 April, about one hundred Afghan soldiers stationed in Chehar Deh crossed over to join the Mujahideen. They brought with them 2 trucks loaded with arms and ammunition and food.

VIRA: Four Russian advisers were killed as a result of a car bomb explosion in a commercial area of Kabul city. (News Pushto: April 1, 88).

Afghan Mujahideen fired four rockets on the building of the Kabul regime Defence Ministry in Darul Aman on the 11th of Hamal. In the rocket attack, heavy losses were caused to the Kabul regime. It may be recalled that these rocket attacks took place at a time when strict security measures have already been taken in connection with the holding of so-called elections.

Similarly, the Mujahideen fired two rockets on the rooms of the Soviet advisers and the Soviet troops in the Ministry of Defence on 13 Hamal as a result the rooms of the Soviet personnel were set on fire. (News Persian: April 9, 1988).

Radio Tehran: On the eve of the anniversary of foreign imposed revolution, the Afghan Mujahideen attacked with rockets the offices of the Central Committee of the Communist Party in Kabul. A large portion of the building was destroyed and a number of Soviet-Afghan troops killed. (News Pushto: April 25, 1988).

BBC: Afghanistan says that on first day of Parliamentary elections a number of polling stations have been fired on. Kabul Radio blames

opposition groups. The election, the first since the Communists came to power ten years ago, is for an Assembly to replace the Ruling Revolutionary Council and is due to go on for more than a week. The government says tens of thousands of people have already voted. But correspondents say that less than half of the country's villages are under Kabul's control, and that the election is being boycotted by the Mujahideen and other opposition groups. Kabul Radio said transport and free lunches were provided for those who wished to vote. (News English: April 6, 1988).

The death of an Afghan Army General at the hands of guerillas has been reported by Kabul Radio. It gives few details apart from saying he was on his way to the capital from a northern region when he was attacked. The Officer, Brigadier General Shah Akha, was buried in Kabul today. (News English: April 12, 1988).

A big explosion took place in Kabul yesterday. The officer responsible for security in Kabul, Brigadier General Saifullah while addressing a press conference discloses that six persons were killed as a result of the explosion. They included four men, one women and a girl. Our correspondent, William Reeves reports from Kabul.

According to General Saifullah, nearly fifty people were also injured in the explosion and half of them are still under treatment in the hospitals. He said this was a time device, adding that nothing could be finally said about the strength of the bomb. But he maintained that it was the biggest explosion occurring in Kabul so far. The device was planted in a lorry parked near Kabul river in the centre of the city.

General Saifullah also showed a number plate to the newsmen saying that it was Pakistani found at the place of incident. He asserted that the Police had secured addresses of the driver and owner of the lorry. However, no arrest has so far been made in this regard. He said the motives behind the explosion were clear. It occurred at a time when the people were returning after taking part in a function held on the occasion of the anniversary of Saur Revolution. He said that last year, ten to eleven bombs were exploded in Kabul while the number remained relatively low during the last few months. He went on to say that the number of those killed in last year's explosions was 35 and most of them had been killed in the explosion occurred in front of a mosque. (Jahan Numa Urdu: April 28, 1988).

VOA: On April 14, when the Foreign Ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan were signing agreement about withdrawal of Soviet forces, the people of Kabul witnessed fierce fighting between Mujahideen and Communist troops. The sources said that the echo of guns was not only clearly heard in Kabul on the night of April 14, but the southern

horizon too remained lighted with the shelling from ten to eleven O'clock. The war gained momentum in the north of Kabul on April 14. The diplomats say that the citizens witnessed the clashes between Mujahideen and Communist troops. As a result the communists suffered heavy loss of life during two days of fighting around Shakardara and helicopters were seen lifting dead bodies and injured. (April 19, 1988).

Radio Kabul: In timely action, the courageous security forces have prevented a sad mishap. Bakhtar's military correspondent reports that a number of people, dependent on armed extremists groups, placed a quantity of explosives near a shop in Qala-e-Shada area. However, this action by the extremists was discovered in time and foiled. The report adds that the security forces, after discovering the explosives, placed the area under close control and observation, resulting in the discovery of 10 surface-to-surface missiles, their launching unit, and a quantity of anti-Government leaflets packed in sacks in a private house in Qala-e-Shada. (Domestic Service in Dari: March 31, 1988).

According to a despatch, 25 families consisting of 240 members who had gone to Iran and another group of 33 persons who had been living in Pakistan, recently returned to this country under the policy of national reconciliation. After receiving the necessary assistance they were transferred to their native places. (News English: April 5, 1988).

A BIA military section correspondent reports that Brigadier General Shah Agha was attacked by extremists near Pol-e-Matak on his way to Kabul as a result of which he was severely wounded. He was immediately taken to the staff of the academy of medical sciences. He died. (April 12, 1988).

Radio Moscow: Kabul Radio reports that a prominent member of the Afghan opposition Haji Ghausuddin has returned to the Afghan capital in the frame-work of Government's policy of national reconciliation. Some seventy supporters returned together with him. Previously at a news conference in Delhi, he urged the other opposition leaders to follow his example and accept Kabul's proposal to establish a coalition Government. Mr Ghausuddin is the head of the Delhi-based affiliation of three-party opposition Alliances. (News Pushto, English: April 2, 1988).

Parwan

Mujahideen sources: 21 March: Mujahideen attack a military convoy at Lalang town near Salang Highway. Two oil tankers hit and burnt.

28-30 March: Soviet-Kabul troops launch a major attack to recover initiative in the almost 2 weeks old fighting for control of Ghorband. Their advance was checked in Chinar Dara area, Forty Soviet-Kabul troops were killed and 10 tanks/armoured vehicles destroyed. Eighteen Kabuli troops surrender to Mujahideen.

3 April: Soviet-Kabul troops renew attacks on the Liberated Territory in Ghorband, west of Charikar, headquarters of Parwan province. Over 5,000 troops are taking part in these attacks.

10 April: Mujahideen continue to control Ghorband district, despite persistent ground and air attacks by Soviet-Kabul forces. One of the attacking planes shot down by AA fire. Tens of civilians killed by Soviet-Kabul bombardment.

11 April: Mujahideen attack army camp at Qila Surkh near Charikar. Three vehicles destroyed. Soviet planes bombard villages.

12 April: A Kabul government general later identified as General Shah Akha was killed in an ambush.

16 April: Mujahideen capture 4 tanks, 3 other vehicles and four machineguns from the Soviet-Kabul army that had invaded Liberated Territory around Ghorband. Mujahideen claim they have won the battle for Ghorband.

27 April: Mujahideen shoot down a SU-25 near Bagram airbase. Mujahideen continue attacks on Soviet-Kabul positions around Charikar.

VIRA: The Muslim freedom fighters of Parwan province repulsed a big attack of the Soviet-Kabul troops in Ghorband area. The report further says that 18 communist troops were killed and 39 others captured by the Mujahideen in these clashes which took place in the beginning of this month. (News Pushto: April 10, 1988).

A report from Afghanistan says that as a result of successful operation, which lasted three days, the Mujahideen on Tuesday last completely liberated the Ghorband area in Parwan province. Now the Ghorband Wolesswali is under the full control of the Mujahideen. Following the Ghorband operations, the Mujahideen also liberated Surkh Parsa Wolesswali in Parwan province. In this way forty per cent of the Parwan province is now under the control of the Mujahideen.

During the three days clashes and fightings in Ghorband area, the Mujahideen shot down a MIG plane of the enemy troops. In these operations, thirteen tanks and ten guns of the enemy were captured by the Mujahideen. (News Pushto: April 14, 1988).

Kapisa

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen attacked "election offices" in Kohistan district on April 7.

Laghman

Mujahideen sources: Three tanks and one armoured car were destroyed when Mujahideen attacked a Soviet army convoy on way to Jalalabad from Kabul on March 28. The road remained blocked for a day.

On 21 April, Mujahideen captured Dusraka and Qala-e-Arsallah Khan, two important security posts on Kabul-Jalalabad highway. On 27 April, Mujahideen attacked Soviet army camp at Bamool on the Kabul-Jalalabad highway. Mujahideen commander Multan Khan was killed during the assault.

VOA: Reliable diplomat sources say that the Soviet troops have handed over their bases to the local communist army in the Laghman province. Local and foreign troops have retreated, vacating the Astana cantonment due to pressure of Mujahideen in Punjsher valley. (Radio Report Urdu: April 19, 1988).

Logar

Mujahideen sources: Mujahideen shot down jet fighter in Dasht-e-Khaka near Burki Burk while it was on a bombing mission on March 31.

On 9 April, Soviet-Kabul troops attacked village Kolangar killing 20 civilians including 8 children. Dozens of private houses were destroyed. This followed a Mujahideen attack on Pule-Alam. Twelve Afghan army officers and 15 other troops had been killed in that incident.

Radio Tehran: In Logar province the Afghan Mujahideen destroyed KHAD office and killed a number of troops.

In other operations the Afghan Mujahideen destroyed six armoured personnel carriers killing all the personnel on board. (April 9, 1988).

The Afghan Mujahideen recently shot down a plane of the Kabul government in the Logar valley south of Kabul province. (April 14, 1988).

In continuation of their attacks in Logar province of Afghanistan, the Afghan Muslim Mujahideen killed more than 50 Soviet-Kabul troops and destroyed their 10 tanks and armoured vehicles recently. (April 28, 1988).

VOA: The government of Afghanistan says its forces have destroyed a rebel position in Logar province and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition. Earlier Sunday resistance forces based in Pakistan said they took two towns near the Afghan-Pakistani border. Neither sides claims have been independently confirmed (News Urdu: April 25, 88).

Radio Kabul: A group of the extremist elements who wanted to disrupt the peaceful life of the Aqchakan area in Logar province, was

wiped out by the security forces recently.

The military correspondent of Bakhtar News Agency reports that in the operation, which took place with the cooperation of the local people, different kinds of weapons and equipment including 124 rocket launchers, three light guns, fifty ground to ground missiles, 1398 land mines, 1021 explosives, some quantity of heroin and sixty hand grenades were seized. (News Pushto: April 24, 1988).

Wardak

Mujahideen sources: March 29: Mujahideen attack military convoy proceedings towards Kabul from Ghazni.

April 2: Mujahideen attack military convoy near Pul-e-Surkh. A tank and 2 trucks destroyed and 12 soldiers killed.

April 17: A tank and an army vehicle destroyed by mines planted by Mujahideen near Saidabad.

VIRA: The Afghan Mujahideen attacked a military convoy of the joint troops in Pul-e-Surkh village of Wardak province recently as a result of which four tanks and vehicles of the enemy troops were destroyed and 12 personnel were killed. (News Pushto: April 22, 1988).

4 — PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

Radio Kabul

Given below are the major Kabul Radio themes in April 1988 in descending order of recurrence:

1. Respect and proper implementation of Geneva agreement may become an example for the regional issues—will restore Pak-Afghan relations—fundamental condition for the achievement of desired goals and for ending bloodshed etc.
2. Elections in Afghanistan—An important event in Afghan history. In accordance with principles of Islam and Afghan values—sign of democracy etc.
3. National Reconciliation Policy provides the strength to economic and social development and is gaining general acceptance.
4. Criticism on Mujahideen leadership behaviour on the Geneva Accord.
5. Highlighting the statement of Pakistan opposition leaders and tribal chieftains concerning the durand line issue.

Radio Moscow

Given below are the major Moscow media themes in April 1988 in descending order of recurrence:

1. Geneva Accord—Result of Soviet-Afghan cooperation welcomed throughout the world—precedent for peaceful settlement of other regional conflicts—Rules out all interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.
2. Concern on Pakistan's acquisition of arms and its alleged design to acquire nuclear power.
3. Increased and continues military supplies to Afghan counter-revolutionaries is unlawful and violation of Accord.
4. Successful implementation of Geneva Accord—depends upon Pakistan and America—will establish good relations between USSR and Pakistan.
5. National Reconciliation Programme allowed for a practical settlement of conflict.

APPENDIX — 1

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN APRIL 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Human Losses

Soviet Casualties	:	269 killed and	106	wounded
Kabul Casualties	:	424 killed and	125	wounded
Soviet-Kabul Casualties	:	305 killed and	114	wounded
Defections	:	387 Kabul troops defected and		
		368 captured		
Mujahideen Casualties	:	133 killed and	117	wounded
Afghan Civilian Casualties	:	175 killed and	45	wounded

Material Losses

Soviet-Kabul Material Losses:—

Aircraft	7	LMGs	26	Security Posts	64
Helicopters	7	HMGs	37	Khad Offices	—
Tanks	65	Klashnikovs	703	PDPA	—
APCs	44	Rockets	—	Establishments	—
HMVs	56	Rocket		Airport	
Trucks	42	Launchers	14	Installation	2
Jeeps	11	Doshaka	1	Police Stations	1
Oil Tankers	4	Rifles	112	Powerhouses	—
Wireless Sets	23	Handgrenades	—	Food Depots	8
Bulldozers	1	Doshka		Buildings	4
Grimov	3	Bullets	—	Cinema	6
Cars	10	Bullets of different		Concrete bunkers	—
Food trucks	10	kinds	50,000	Ammunition Depot	10
Mortars	17	Military		Pistols	2
Heavy quantity of		installation	1	DRA houses	13
arms and ammu-					
nitions 10 times					
destroyed					

Mujahideen Material Losses:

HMG 1 -

APPENDIX — 2

ESTIMATE OF LOSSES IN APRIL 1988 SOVIET-KABUL (RADIO KABUL) SOURCES

Mujahideen and Afghan Civilian ("Counter-revolutionaries") Losses:

Killed	110	
Captured	34	
Returnees	—	(Those availing amnesty voluntarily surrendering, changing allegiance and joining Soviet-Kabul ranks).
Civilian Refugees	3391	
Members of armed groups	265	

Mujahideen Material Losses:

Zikuyags Recoilless Guns	2	
Dshkh gun	2	
Rocket launchers	126	
Klashnikovs	Unspecified number	
Explosives	1031 Kg	
Munition depots	4	
Cartridges	Several thousands	
Ground-to-ground missile with "reactivator" unit	143	
LMGs	13	
Bases/Hideouts	4	
Mortars	1	
Land mines	1398	
5 sacks of "anti-government" literature	200 Kg of various medicine	
some quantity of heroin.		
Handgrenades	60	

Losses inflicted by counter revolutionary elements:

Persons Killed	29	including Khan Akha
Wounded	64	

Material Losses:

Houses	43
Mosques	3

APPENDIX — 3

PROVINCEWISE ENGAGEMENTS IN APRIL 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Total Engage- ments	Provincial Capital	Engagements	
			Inside City	Vicinity of City
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	1	Zaranj	1	—
Hilmand	6	Lashkargarh	—	1
Qandahar	16	Qandahar	3	2
Zabul	16	Kalat Gilzai	—	—
Ghazni	20	Ghazni	8	1
Paktika	5	Sharna	1	—
Paktiya	15	Gardez	—	—
Ningarhar	26	Jalalabad	—	1
Kunar	23	Chagha Sarai	3	1
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	1	Faizabad	—	—
Takhar	5	Taloqan	—	1
Kunduz	12	Kunduz	2	2
Baghlan	9	Baghlan	3	1
Samangan	—	Samangan	—	—
Balkh	4	Mazar Sharif	—	—
Jozjan	—	Shebergan	—	—
Sar-e-pul	3	Sarepul	—	—
Faryab	3	Maimana	1	1
Badghis	1	Qala Nau	1	—
Bordering Iran				
Herat	6	Herat	—	—
Farah	10	Farah	—	—
(Nimruz)	—	(Zaranj)	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	13	Bamiyan	13	—
Ghor	1	Chaghcharan	—	—
Uruzgan	1	Tarin Kot	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent				
Kabul	17	Kabul	10	—
Parwan	34	Charikar	—	—
Kapisa	4	Mahmud-i-Raqi	2	—
Laghman	2	Mehtarlam	—	—
Logar	6	Pule Alam	—	—
Wardak	4	Koteasro	—	—
TOTAL				
	261		48	12

APPENDIX — 4

MUJAHIDEEN MOBILE & IMMOBILE TARGETS AND SOVIET-KABUL OPERATIONS IN APRIL 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Mujahideen Targets		Soviet-Kabul Operations		Total
	Mobile	Immobile	Air	Ground	
Bordering Pakistan					
Nimruz	—	1	—	—	1
Hilmand	—	3	—	3	6
Qandahar	5	5	3	3	16
Zabul	3	10	3	—	16
Ghazni	3	14	3	—	20
Paktika	3	—	—	2	5
Paktiya	5	5	3	2	15
Ningarhar	5	14	6	—	26
Kunar	2	15	3	3	23
Bordering USSR					
Badakhshan	—	—	1	—	1
Takhar	—	5	—	—	5
Kunduz	5	7	—	—	12
Baghlan	4	4	—	—	9
Samangan	—	—	—	—	—
Balkh	—	4	—	—	4
Jozjan	—	—	—	—	—
Sar-e-pul	—	—	—	—	—
Faryab	—	2	—	1	3
Badghis	—	1	—	—	1
Bordering Iran					
Herat	—	6	—	—	6
Farah	1	1	6	2	10
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces					
Bamiyan	1	7	5	—	13
Ghor	—	1	—	—	1
Uruzgan	—	1	—	—	1
Kabul & Adjacent					
Kabul	—	17	—	—	17
Parwan	8	4	15	7	34
Kapisa	—	4	—	—	4
Laghman	—	2	—	—	2
Logar	1	1	3	1	6
Wardak	3	—	—	1	4
TOTAL:	48	137	51	25	261

APPENDIX — 5

PROVINCEWISE SOVIET-KABUL SECURITY OPERATIONS AND RETURNEES IN APRIL 1988 (Radio Kabul)

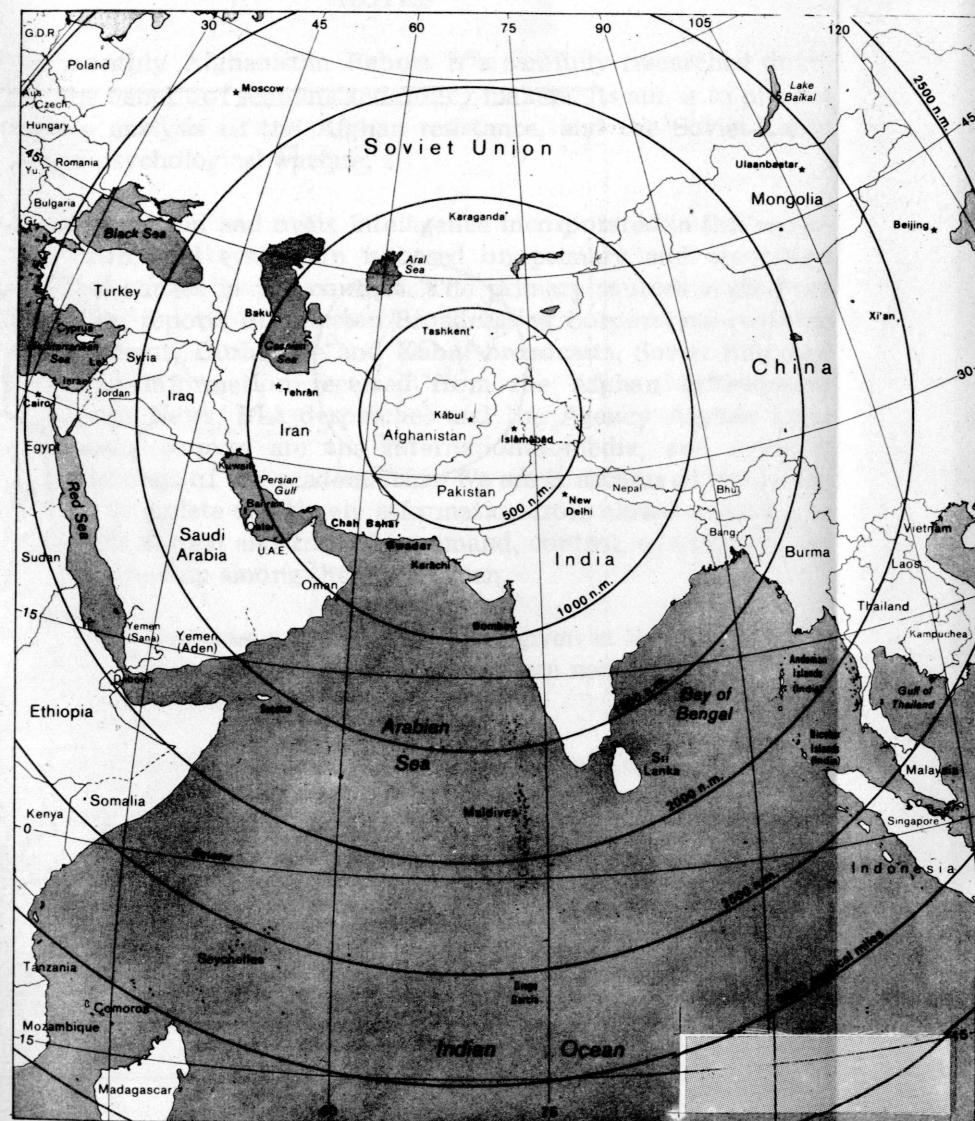
Provinces	Soviet-Kabul Operations	Counter- revolutionaries Action	Armed groups surrendering	Returnees
Bordering Pakistan				
Nimruz	—	—	—	—
Hilmand	2	—	—	—
Qandahar	—	—	265	—
Zabul	—	1	—	—
Ghazni	—	—	—	—
Paktika	—	—	—	—
Paktiya	3	1	—	2300
Ningarhar	2	1	—	150
Kunar	2	5	—	30
Bordering USSR				
Badakhshan	—	—	—	—
Takhar	—	—	—	—
Kunduz	—	—	—	—
Baghlan	—	—	—	—
Samangan	—	—	—	—
Balkh	—	—	—	50
Jozjan	1	—	—	—
Sar-e-pul	—	—	—	—
Faryab	—	3	—	—
Badghis	—	—	—	230
Bordering Iran				
Herat	—	2	—	520
Farah	—	—	—	111
(Nimruz)	—	—	—	—
Central Provinces				
Bamiyan	3	5	—	—
Ghor	—	—	—	—
Uruzgan	—	—	—	—
Kabul & Adjacent				
Kabul	4	3	—	—
Parwan	—	—	—	—
Kapisa	—	—	—	—
Laghman	—	—	—	—
Logar	1	—	—	—
Wardak	—	—	—	—
TOTAL:	18	21	265	3391

APPENDIX — 6

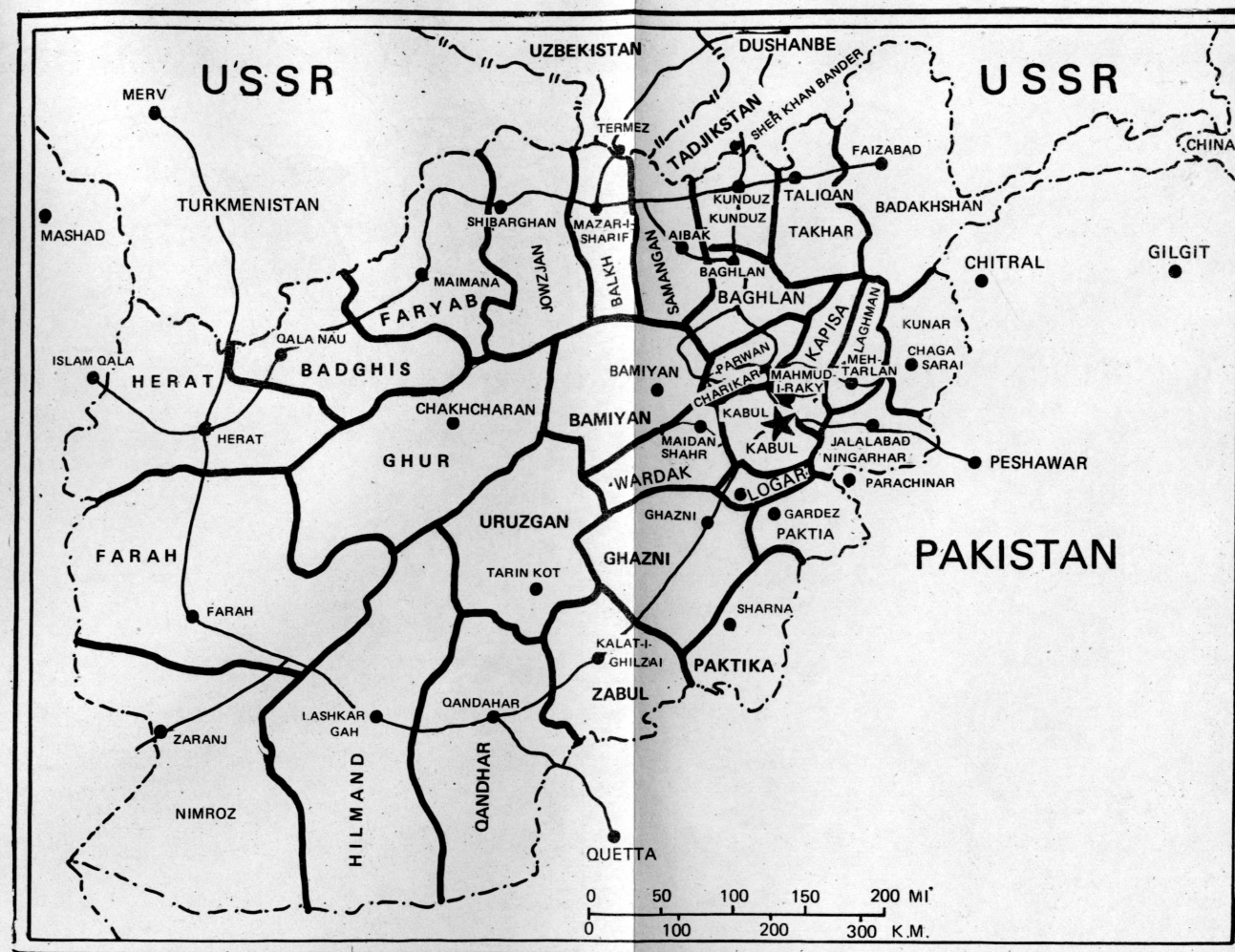
AFGHAN CIVILIAN HUMAN AND MATERIAL LOSSES IN APRIL 1988 (MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)

Provinces	Location	Casualties		Houses destroyed/ Damaged	Heads of Live- stocks	Date (1988)
		K	W			
Qandahar	Qandahar	10	10	—	—	20/4
Ghazni	Shulgar	—	—	14	—	28/3
Paktiya	Sakaba	5	—	10	—	5/4
Ningarhar	Nazian	—	5	4	—	2/4
Ningarhar	Hagham	2	—	—	—	15/4
Kunar	Barikot	—	—	12	—	22/4
Badakhshan	Jurm	17	25	—	50	1/4
Kunduz	Bala Hisar	—	—	5	—	6/3
Farah	Tayoosak	—	—	5	—	6/3
Farah	Qila Kah	12	—	—	—	4/4
Parwan	Ghorband	50	—	—	—	5/4
Parwan	Ghorband	10	10	—	—	10/4
Parwan	Qila Surkh	—	—	4	—	11/4
Logar	Kolangar	20	—	12	—	9/4
Wardak	Pul-e-Surkh	—	—	8	—	2/4
TOTAL 15 INCIDENTS IN 11 PROVINCES		126	50	74	50	

APPENDIX — VII A



APPENDIX — VII B



Mujahideen sources: Conflict reported during April 1988 in 27 Provinces. Provinces from where no war report received: Samangan, Jozjan and Sar-e-pul.

Radio Kabul: Conflict reported during April 1988 in 10 provinces. These provinces are: Hilmand, Zabul, Paktiya, Ningarhar, Kunar, Jozjan, Faryab, Herat, Bamiyan, Kabul and Logar.

NOTES

The monthly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched document for the benefit of scholars and policy-makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, and the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare.

The information and overt intelligence incorporated in this report after collection, and evaluation is based on primary and secondary sources of all parties in the conflict. The primary sources availed are the monitoring reports of Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation covering Moscow, Tashkent, Dushambe and Kabul broadcasts, Soviet Embassy handouts, and information received from the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, BIA despatches and the Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the international media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of casualties and material losses given in Section 3 are in only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

Losses reported in "Soviet-Kabul" category are often physically not verifiable by the Mujahideen and therefore mostly speculative.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed on the events.

Dates given in parenthesis in the chapter "Provincewise Survey Analysis" are of the actual broadcast.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR).

PERIOD COVERED

Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during April 1-30, 1988. Appendices 1-7 also incorporate March 1988 incidents reported in April 1988.

II.— THE POLITICO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

1 — MESSAGES, VISITS AND MEETINGS

Messages

Messages on various occasions were sent to, received from and exchanged with the following countries and organizations: Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Hungary, IUAM (Islamic Unity of Afghan Mujahideen), Jordan, Laos, Pakistan, PLO, Romania, Seychelles, Syria, UNHCR, USA, USSR, Vietnam, PDR of Yemen (Radio Kabul, Kabul Times: April, 1988).

Afghan President Najibullah has sent a condolence message to his excellency, Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, President of Pakistan on the blast at ammunition depot in Islamabad.

The message reads; Your Highness Zia-ul-Haq, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, let me convey my deep concern over the fire which broke out in an ammunition dump in Islamabad, causing heavy losses in men and material. The Muslim people of Afghanistan are greatly grieved over this incident. Kindly convey my condolence to affected families and all the people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (Radio Kabul, April 11).

Visits

On the request of RA, a Soviet delegation of Economic and Banking Experts has arrived in Kabul. They were received at Kabul airport among others by Mr. Sultan Ali Keshtmand, Prime Minister of Afghanistan (Radio Kabul, April 6).

On the invitation of the government of the RA, Murakhovsky first Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, President of the Soviet State Committee for Gos Rgroprom and Co-Chairman of the Permanent Commission for Afghan-Soviet economic cooperation arrived on April 3, in Kabul leading a delegation (Kabul Times: April 7).

Mahboobullah Kushani, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the State Planning Committee arrived in Warsaw on April 11 leading an Afghan delegation at the invitation of the Polish State Planning Committee. The delegation will discuss matters of economic, scientific and technical cooperation during their stay in Poland (Kabul Times: April).

Meetings

The Soviet leader, Mr. Gorbachev went to Tashkent, capital of the

Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan for an announced meeting with the Afghan President, Dr. Najibullah. Najibullah arrived in Tashkent with the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Eduard Shervardnadze, who has been in Kabul for the past three days to discuss arrangements for a Soviet withdrawal in the event of a breakdown in the peace talks in Geneva (BBC: April 6).

Afghan President, Najibullah met in his office on April 24 with the social experts of the Soviet Union and the United States, who are presently on a visit to Afghanistan (Radio Kabul: April 24).

Najibullah met in Kabul with the delegation of the Soviet Union headed by Vladimir Liavolovich Arloev (ph) Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the Russian Socialist Federate Republic, who was in Kabul for participation in the 10th anniversary of April Revolution. Likewise President Najibullah received the Czechoslovak delegation headed by Josef Kameny (ph) member of Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia for a friendly meeting (Radio Kabul: April 27).

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, Sultan Ali Keshtmand held a meeting with President of Working Committee of Soviet Red Cross Society, Vendov Daviah Yoav (ph) who is now touring Afghanistan. During the meeting views were exchanged regarding promotion of the relations between Soviet Red Cross Society and Afghan Red Crescent Society (Radio Kabul: April 10).

Prime Minister, Sultan Ali Keshtmand met in Kabul on April 25, the delegations of Poland, GDR, Bulgaria and Mongolia who had come to Kabul to take part in the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the April Revolution. During the meeting the Prime Minister spoke on the gains achieved in the years after the revolutions and the expansion of friendly relations with these countries (Radio Kabul: April 27).

Prime Minister, Sultan Ali Keshtmand met with the delegation of the Republic of Nicaragua, led by Nicaraguan Ambassador in Kabul. The meeting took place in the headquarters of the Council of Ministers in Kabul, on April 27. Another report says that Mr. Keshtmand held a meeting with the delegation of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea (Radio Kabul: April 28).

Secretary of the CC of the PDPA, Najibullah Kuwyani met with the Secretary of the CC of the Soviet Communist Party, Anatoli Dobryrin on 21 April. During the meeting they noted the significance of the Geneva agreements regarding a political settlement. Several aspects of expanding cooperations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union came under discussions (Radio Kabul: April 22).

2 — POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Geneva proximity talks, which were started in June 1982 between Pakistan and Afghanistan with the help of United Nations mediation ended on April 14 with the signing of agreements on the solution of Afghanistan problem. Following is the text of the four instruments signed in Geneva:

1. BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN ON THE PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL RELATIONS, IN PARTICULAR ON NON-INTERFERENCE AND NON-INTERVENTION.

The Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the high contracting parties;

Desiring to normalise relations and promote good-neighbourliness and cooperation as well to strengthen international peace and security in the region;

Considering that full observance of the principle of non-interference and non-intervention in the internal and external affairs of states is of the greatest importance for the maintenance of international peace and security and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the charter of the United Nations;

Reaffirming the inalienable right of states freely to determine their own political, economic, cultural and social systems in accordance with the will of their people, without outside intervention, interference, subversion, coercion or threat in any form whatsoever;

Mindful of the provisions of the charter of the United Nations on the principle of non-interference and non-intervention, in particular the declaration on principles of international law concerning friendly relations and cooperation among states in accordance with the charter of the United Nations, of 24 October 1970, as well as the declaration on the inadmissibility of intervention and interference in the internal affairs of states, of 9 December 1981; have agreed as follows:

Article I

Relations between the high contracting parties shall be conducted in strict compliance with the principle of non-interference and non-intervention by states in the affairs of other states.

Article II

For the purpose of implementing the principle of non-interference and non-intervention each high contracting party undertakes to comply

with the following obligations:

1. To respect the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity, national unity, security and non-alignment of the other high contracting party, as well as the national identity and cultural heritage of its people.
2. To respect the sovereign and inalienable right of the other high contracting party freely to determine its own political, economic, cultural and social systems, to develop its international relations and to exercise permanent sovereignty over its natural resources, in accordance with the will of its people, and without outside intervention, interference, subversion, coercion or threat in any form whatsoever.
3. To refrain from the threat or use of force in any form whatsoever so as not to violate the boundaries of each other, to disrupt the political, social or economic order of the other high contracting party, to overthrow or change the political system of the other high contracting party or its government, or to cause tension between the high contracting parties.
4. To ensure that its territory is not used in any manner which would violate the sovereignty, political independence, territorial integrity and national unity or disrupt the political, economic and social stability of the other high contracting party.
5. To refrain from armed intervention, subversion, military occupation or any other form of intervention and interference, overt or covert, directed at the other high contracting party, or any act of military, political or economic interference in the internal affairs of the other high contracting party, including acts of reprisal involving the use of force.
6. To refrain from an action or attempt in whatever form or under whatever pretext to destabilize or to undermine the stability of the other high contracting party or any of its institutions.
7. To refrain from the promotion, encouragement or support, direct or indirect, of rebellious or secessionist activities against the other high contracting party, under any pretext whatsoever, or from any other action which seeks to disrupt the unity or to undermine or subvert the political order of the high contracting party.
8. To prevent within its territory the training, equipping, financing and recruitment of mercenaries from whatever origin for the purpose of hostile activities against the mercenaries into

- the territory of the other high contracting party and accordingly to deny facilities, including financing for the training, equipping and transit of such mercenaries.
9. To refrain from making any agreements or arrangements with other states designed to intervene or interfere in the internal and external affairs of the other high contracting party.
 10. To abstain from any defamatory campaign, vilification or hostile propaganda for the purpose of intervening or interference in the internal affairs of the other high contracting party.
 11. To prevent any assistance to or use of tolerance of terrorist groups, saboteurs of subversive agents against the other high contracting party.
 12. To prevent within its territory the presence, harbouring in camps and bases or otherwise, organizing, training, financing, equipping and arming of individuals and political, ethnic and any other groups for the purpose of creating subversion, disorder or unrest in the territory of the other high contracting party and accordingly also to prevent the use of mass media and the transportation of arms, ammunition and equipment by such individuals and groups.

Article III

The present agreement shall enter into force on 15 May 1988.

Article IV

Any steps that may be required in order to enable the high contracting parties to comply with the provisions of Article II of this agreement shall be completed by the date on which this agreement enters into force.

Article V

This agreement is drawn up in the English, Pashtu and Urdu languages, all texts being equally authentic, in case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Done in five original copies at Geneva this 14th day of April 1988.
(Signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan).

2. DECLARATION ON INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and of the United States of America, expressing support that the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have concluded a

negotiated political settlement designed to normalize relations and promote good-neighbourliness between the two countries as well as to strengthen international peace and security in the region.

Wishing in turn to contribute to the achievement of the Republic of Afghanistan and Islamic Republic of Pakistan objectives have set themselves, and with a view to ensuring respect for their sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and non-alignment.

Undertake to invariably refrain from any form of interference and intervention in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principle of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention.

The present declaration shall enter into force on 15 May 1988.

Done at Geneva, this 14th day of April 1988 in five original copies, each in the English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic. (Signed by the USSR and the USA).

3. AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN ON THE VOLUNTARY RETURN OF REFUGEES

The Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the high contracting parties.

Desiring to normalise relations and promote good-neighbourliness and cooperation as well as to strengthen international peace and security in the region;

Convinced that voluntary and unimpeded repatriation constitute the most appropriate solution for the problem of Afghan refugees present in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and having ascertained that the arrangements for the return of the Afghan refugees are satisfactory to them; have agreed as follows:

Article I

All Afghan refugees temporarily present in the territory of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall be given the opportunity to return voluntarily to their homeland in accordance with the arrangements and conditions set out in the present agreement.

Article II

The government of the Republic of Afghanistan shall take all necessary measures to ensure the following conditions for the voluntary return of Afghan refugees to their homeland:

- a. All refugees shall be allowed to return in freedom to their homeland.

- b. All returnees shall enjoy the free choice of domicile and freedom of movement within the Republic of Afghanistan.
- c. All returnees shall enjoy right to participate on an equal basis in the civic affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan. They shall be ensured equal benefits from the solution of the land question on the basis of the land and water reform.
- d. All returnees shall enjoy the same rights and privileges, including freedom of religion, and have the same obligations and responsibilities as any other citizens of the Republic of the Afghanistan without discrimination.

Article III

The government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall facilitate the voluntary, orderly and peaceful repatriation of all Afghan refugees staying within its territory and undertakes to provide, within its possibilities, all necessary assistance in the process of repatriation.

Article IV

For the purpose of organizing, coordinating and supervising the operations which should effect the voluntary, orderly and peaceful repatriation of Afghan refugees, there shall be set up mixed commissions in accordance with the established international practice. For the performance of their functions the members of the commissions and their staff shall be accorded the necessary facilities, and have access to the relevant areas within the territories of the high contracting parties.

Article V

With a view to the orderly movement of the returnees, the commissions shall determine frontier crossing points and establish necessary transit centres. They shall also establish all other modalities for the phased return of refugees, including registration and communication to the country of return, the names of refugees who express to return.

Article VI

At the request of the governments concerned the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will cooperate and provide assistance in the process of voluntary repatriation of refugees in accordance with the present agreement. Special agreement may be concluded for this purpose between UNHCR and the high contracting parties.

Article VII

The present agreement shall enter into force on 15 May 1988. At

that time the mixed commission provided in Article IV shall be established and the operations for the voluntary return of refugees under this agreement shall commence.

The arrangements set out in Article IV and V above shall remain in effect for a period of 18 months. After that period the high contracting parties shall review the results of the repatriation and, if necessary, consider any further arrangements that may be called for.

Article VIII

This agreement is drawn up in the English, Pashtu and Urdu languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Done in five original copies at Geneva this 14th day of April 1988. (Signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan).

4. AGREEMENT ON THE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE SITUATION RELATING TO AFGHANISTAN.

1. The diplomatic process initiated by the Secretary General of the United Nations with the support of all governments concerned and aimed at achieving, through negotiations, as political settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan has been successfully brought to an end.
2. Having agreed to work towards a comprehensive settlement designed to resolve the various involved and to establish a framework for good-neighbourliness and cooperation, the government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan entered into negotiations through the intermediary of the personal representative of the Secretary General at Geneva from 16 to 24 June 1982.

Following consultations held by the personal representative in Islamabad, Kabul and Tehran from 21 January to 7 February 1983, the negotiations continued at Geneva from 11 to 22 April and from 12 to 24 June, 1983. The personal representative again visited the area for high-level discussions from 3 to 15 April, 1984. It was then agreed to change the format of the negotiations and, in pursuance thereof, proximity talks through the intermediary of the personal representative were held at Geneva from 24 to 30 August, 1984. Another visit further rounds of proximity talks held at Geneva from 20 to 25 June, from 27 to 30 August and from 16 to 19 December, 1985. The personal representative paid an addi-

tional visit to the area from 8 to 18 March, 1986 for consultations. The final round of negotiations began as proximity talks at Geneva on 5 May, 1986. The personal representative visited the area from 20 November to 3 December, 1986 for further consultations and the talks at Geneva were resumed again from 25 February to 9 March, 1987 and from 7 to 11 September, 1987. The personal representative again visited the area from 18 January to 9 February, 1988 and the talks resumed at Geneva from 2 March to 8 April, 1988. The format of the negotiations was changed on 14 April, 1988, when the instruments comprising the settlement were finalized, and accordingly, direct talks were held at that stage. The government of the Islamic Republic of Iran was kept informed of the progress of the negotiations throughout the diplomatic process.

3. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan took part in the negotiations with the expressed conviction that they were acting in accordance with their rights and obligations under the charter of the United Nations and agreed that the political settlement should be based on the following principles of international law:

- The principle that states shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations:
- The principle that states shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered:
- The duty of states to cooperate with one another in accordance with the charter of the United Nations:
- The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples:
- The principle of sovereign equality of states:
- The principle that states shall fulfil in good faith the obligation assumed by them in accordance with the charter of the United Nations:

The two governments further affirmed the right of the Afghan refugees to return to their homeland in a voluntary and unimpeded manner:

4. The following instruments were concluded on this date as

component parts of the political settlement:

- A bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention;
 - A declaration on international guarantees by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America;
 - A bilateral agreement between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan on the voluntary return of refugees;
 - The present agreement on the inter-relationships for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan.
5. The bilateral agreement on the principles of mutual relations, in particular on non-interference and non-intervention. The declaration on international guarantees: The bilateral agreement on the voluntary return of refugees: and the present agreement on the inter-relationships for the settlement of the situation relating to Afghanistan will enter into force on 15 May, 1988. In accordance with the timeframe agreed upon between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Afghanistan, there will be a phased withdrawal of the foreign troops which will start on the date of entry into force mentioned above. One half of the troops will be withdrawn by 15 August, 1988 and the withdrawal of all troops will be completed within nine months.
6. The inter-relationships in paragraph 5 above have been agreed upon in order to achieve effectively the purpose of the political settlement, namely, that as from 15 May, 1988, there will be no interference and intervention in any form in the affairs of the parties: The international guarantees will be in operation: The voluntary return of the refugees to their homeland will start and be completed within the timeframe specified in the agreement on the voluntary return of the refugees: And the phased withdrawal of the foreign troops will start and be completed within the timeframe envisaged in paragraph 5. It is, therefore, essential that all the obligations deriving from the instruments concluded as component parts of the settlement be strictly fulfilled and that all the steps required to ensure full compliance with all the provisions of the instruments be completed in good faith.
7. To consider alleged violations and to work out prompt and

mutually satisfactory solutions to questions that may arise in the implementation of the instruments comprising the settlement representatives of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan shall meet whenever required.

In order to enable him to fulfil his tasks, the representative shall be assisted by such personnel under his authority as required. On his own initiative, or at the request of any of the parties, the personnel shall investigate any possible violations of any of the provisions of the instruments and prepare a report thereon. For that purpose, the representative and his personnel shall receive all the necessary cooperation from the parties, including all freedom of movement within their respective territories required for effective investigation. Any report submitted by the representative to the two governments shall be considered in a meeting of the parties not later than 48 hours after it has been submitted.

The modalities and logistical arrangements for the work of the representative and the personnel under his authority as agreed upon with the parties are set out in the memorandum of understanding which is annexed to and is part of this agreement.

8. The present instrument will be registered with the Secretary General of the United Nations. It has been examined by the representatives of the parties of the bilateral agreements and of the states-guarantors, who have signified their consent with its provisions. The representatives of the parties, being duly authorized there to by their respective governments, have affixed their signatures hereunder. The Secretary General of the United Nations was present.

Done at Geneva, this 14th day of April, 1988, in five original copies each in the English, Pashtu, Russian and Urdu languages, all being equally authentic. In case of any dispute regarding the interpretation, the English text shall prevail. (Signed by Afghanistan and Pakistan).

In witness thereof, the representatives of the states-guarantors affixed their signatures hereunder: (Signed by the USSR and USA).

I. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

1. Basic requirements

- a. The parties will provide full support and cooperation to the Representative of the Secretary General and to all the

- personnel assigned to assist him.
- b. The Representative of the Secretary General and his personnel will be accorded every facility as well as prompt and effective assistance, including freedom of movement and communications, accommodation, transportation and other facilities that may be necessary for the performance of their tasks. Afghanistan and Pakistan undertake to grant to the representative and his staff all the relevant privileges and immunities provided for by the convention on the privileges and immunities of the United Nations.
 - c. Afghanistan and Pakistan will be responsible for the safety of the representative of the Secretary General and his personnel while operating in their respective countries.
 - d. In performing their functions the Representative of the Secretary General and his staff will act with complete impartiality. The representative of the Secretary General and his personnel must not interfere in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and Pakistan and in this context, cannot be used to secure advantages for any of the parties concerned.

II. MANDATE

The mandate for the implementations—assistance arrangements envisaged in paragraph 78 derives from the instruments comprising the settlement. All the staff assigned to the representative of the Secretary General will accordingly be carefully briefed on the relevant provisions of the instruments and on the procedures that will be used to ascertain violations thereof.

III. MODUS OPERANDI AND PERSONNEL ORGANIZATION

The Secretary General will appoint a senior military officer as deputy to the representative, who will be stationed in the area as head of two small headquarters units, one in Kabul and other in Islamabad, each comprising five military officers, drawn from existing United Nations operations, and a small civilian auxiliary staff.

The two headquarters units will be organized in two inspection teams to ascertain the ground on any violation of the instruments comprising the settlement. Whenever considered necessary by the representative of the Secretary General or his deputy, up to 40 additional military officers (some 10 additional inspection teams) will be redeployed from existing operations within the shortest possible time (normally around 48 hours).

The nationalities of all the officers will be determined in consulta-

tion with the parties. Whenever necessary the representative of the Secretary General, who will periodically visit the area for consultations with the parties and to review the work of his personnel, will also assign to the area members of his own office and other civilian personnel from the United Nations Secretariat as may be needed. His deputy will alternate between the two headquarters units and will remain at all times in close communication with him.

IV. PROCEDURE

- a. Inspections conducted at the request of the parties
 1. A complaint regarding violation of the instrument of the settlement lodged by any of the parties should be submitted in writing in the English language, to the respective headquarters units and should indicate all relevant information and details.
 2. Upon receipt of a complaint the Deputy to the Representative of the Secretary General will immediately inform the other party of the complaint and undertake an investigation by making on-site inspections, gathering testimony and using any other procedure which he may deem necessary for the investigation of the alleged violation, such inspection will be conducted using headquarters staff as referred to above unless the Deputy Representative of the Secretary General considers that additional teams are needed. In that case, the parties will, under the principle of freedom of movement, allow immediate access of the additional personnel to their respective territories.
 3. Reports on investigations will be prepared in English and submitted by the Deputy Representative of the Secretary General to the two governments, on a confidential basis. (A third copy of the report will be simultaneously transmitted, on a confidential basis, to United Nations Headquarters in New York, exclusively for the information of the Secretary General and his Representative). In accordance with Paragraph 7, a report on an investigation should be considered in a meeting of the parties not later than 48 hours after it has been submitted. The Deputy Representative of the Secretary General will, in the absence of the representative, lend his good offices to the parties and in that context he will assist in the organization of the meetings and participate in them. In the context of those meetings the Deputy Representative of the Secretary

General may submit to the parties for their consideration and approval suggestions and recommendations for the prompt, faithful and complete observance of the provisions of the instruments. Such suggestions and recommendations will be, as matter of course, consulted with, and cleared by, the Representative of the Secretary General.

- b. Inspections conducted on the initiative of the Deputy Representative of the Secretary General.

In addition to inspections requested by the parties, the Deputy Representative of the Secretary General may carry out on his own initiative and in consultation with the representative inspections appropriate for the purpose of the implementation of paragraph 7. If it is considered that the conclusions reached in an inspection justify a report to the parties, the same procedure used in submitting reports in connection with inspections carried out at the request of the parties will be followed.

Level of Participation in Meetings

As indicated above, the Deputy Representative of the Secretary General will participate at meetings of the parties convened for the purpose of considering reports on violations. Should the parties decide to meet for the purpose outlined in paragraph 7 at a high political level, the Representative of the Secretary General will personally attend such meetings.

V. DURATION

The Deputy to the Representative of the Secretary General and the other personnel will be established in the area not later than 20 days before the entry into force of the instruments. The arrangements will cease to exist two months after the completion of all timeframes envisaged for the implementation of the instruments.

VI. FINANCING

The cost of all facilities and services to be provided by the parties will be borne by the respective governments. The salaries and travel expenses of the personnel to and from the area, as well as the costs of the local personnel assigned to the headquarters units, will be defrayed by the United Nations

Session of the Politburo of the PDPA

A periodic session of the Politburo of the PDPA CC was held on April 14. It assessed the implementation of the decisions of the Feb-

ruary plenum of the PDPA CC, the politburo evaluated the questions related to economic growth, better management and maintaining mutual beneficial cooperation between the state and the national traders. It noted that the nationwide conference of national traders of the country would be held in June or July of the current year. The Politburo also reviewed nationwide work emulation during last year and noted that the national accord is a complex and comprehensive programme of work including creation of favourable conditions for future national economic growth (Kabul Times: April 16).

A Session of Military Courts and Attorneys of the Armed Forces

A joint session of the military courts and attorneys of the armed forces was held on April 10 in the Ministry of Defence to evaluate their work in the implementation of National Reconciliation. Lt. Gen. Mohammad Rafie, Minister of Defence spoke at the session on the responsibilities of judges and lawyers of the armed forces in strengthening legality of orders and discipline of the armed forces. Some of the participants also spoke and pledged their readiness to implement NR (Kabul Times: April 12).

General Elections in Afghanistan

The Soviet-backed government in Kabul, has invited a United Nations Human Rights Commission to visit Afghanistan for witnessing the parliamentary elections, which it is holding in the start of April, 1988. In a message to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, President Najibullah said that the elections would be free and the balloting would be secret. President Najibullah has also sent a message to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, requesting him to ask the exiled Afghan citizens to return home and participate in the elections (VOA: April 5).

In Afghanistan fourteen parties and public organizations have nominated their candidates. These include the Peoples Democratic Party, other parties of the left wing democratic bloc, the People's Islamic Party and the Farmers Justice Party. The Chairman of the Central Electoral Office, Abdul Rahim Hatif told that the future parliament should reflect realities of the NR process in a wide range of social groups and political forces represented. President Najibullah had recently appealed to the commanders of armed opposition to nominate their candidates in all constituencies including those controlled by the government. The constitution and electoral law provide for 25% of seats reserved for the opposition (Radio Moscow: April 6).

In Afghanistan on the first day of the parliamentary elections a

number of polling stations have been attacked. Kabul Radio admits and blames opposition groups. The election is the first election since the Communists came to power ten years ago. It is for an assembly to replace the Ruling Revolutionary Council and is due to go on for more than a week. The government says tens of thousands of people have already voted. But western correspondents say that less than half of the country's villages are under Kabul's control, and that the election is being boycotted by the Mujahideen and other opposition groups. Kabul Radio said transport and free lunches were provided for those who wished to vote (BBC: April 6).

The Afghan President Dr. Najibullah has given further details about the deaths during violence, linked to the general elections in the country. He said that about 130 people were killed during the elections while two aircraft were shot down. He held Mujahideen responsible for these violent activities. He said that firing was also stepped up against the border areas during the elections (BBC: April 23).

Elections to the National Assembly, which began on April 5, in accordance with the provision of the constitution ended successfully on April 14. In these elections, which took place in a free and democratic atmosphere, one and a half million people voted for their trust-worthy candidates (Radio Kabul: April 16).

Central Election Commission Met in the Delkusha Palace, President Najibullah also Attended the Meeting

At the beginning, Abdul Rahim Hatif presented a report on the performance of the Central Election Commission in conducting the elections to the National Council. In his report he said that the "elections were held in a free and democratic atmosphere. About fifteen lakh people took part in the elections." He added that "the elections proved that our people need peace in the country. Members of the National Front, Peoples Democratic Party and other parties, social and political organizations, officers and soldiers of the armed forces and our compatriots who have returned to their homeland from abroad and the opposition groups took active part in the elections. They cast their votes in favour of the candidates of their choice. Sixty thousand people belonging to the opposition also took part in the elections," and participate in the elections (VOA: April 5).

Najib's Optimism

Najibullah told a news conference in Kabul that the authorities controlled all the provinces and that the forthcoming withdrawal of Soviet troops will not change the situation. Najibullah again called on

the opposition groups in Pakistan to end the fratricidal war and join the political process on the basis of National Reconciliation. He said that in the future Afghanistan, all forms of struggle other than military will be allowed. He rejected rumours that as the Soviet troops contingents withdrew from Afghanistan, it will leave its arms and equipment to the Afghan army. However, President said that as an independent nation, Afghanistan would use the services of Soviet military advisors (Radio Moscow: April 29).

Afghan President Najibullah says Soviet military advisors will remain in Afghanistan after the phased withdrawal of Soviet troops. Talking to reporters in Kabul, the Afghan leader expressed confidence in the ability of government troops to fight resistance forces, known as the Mujahideen (VOA: April 28).

Zahir Shah Ready to Play a Role

Afghanistan's deposed King Zahir Shah says he would be willing to accept a role in a new interim government in his homeland. However, in an interview with a Pakistani newspaper Zahir Shah said there is no chance the monarchy will be restored (VOA: April 18).

The former King of Afghanistan Mohammad Zahir Shah has called for the establishment of an Afghan interim government. In a statement issued in Rome a former Monarch's spokesman said the United Nations, Afghanistan and all the parties involved should pave the way for a National Congress Committee so as to reach the primary goal. He said the interim government should be acceptable to majority of Afghans (Radio Beijing: April 15).

India Again Active To Play a Role

The American Defence Secretary Mr. Carlucci has said India is playing a constructive role in the settlement of the Afghanistan problem and the United States will continue its dialogue with New Delhi on the issue. He said his country would like India, as a regional power, to continue its role for a stable government in Kabul (AIR: April 6).

The Press Trust of India reports that Indian Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi addressing the Indian Parliament said that India has good relations with Afghanistan and they would invite Afghan President Najibullah to visit India to discuss the situation following the signing of Geneva protocol. The Geneva protocol have paved the way for peace and tranquility in Afghanistan. Rajiv said they will play their constructive role in this connection. He expressed the hope that Geneva protocol will culminate in checking of interferences in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. He regretted over the fact that Pakistan during the days of

signing of Geneva protocol, had not positively replied to the Indian invitation for consultations. He states that this could have helped in the settlement of the situation (Radio Kabul: April 22).

Afghan Resistance — The War Will Continue

Leader of the Mujahideen alliances Mr. Hekmatyar has said that the war would go on until the last Soviet soldier had left Afghanistan and an Islamic government had been established. Without the consent of the guerillas, no agreement could be implemented, nor could the crisis be ended. Hekmatyar said that the amount of weapons now available to the guerillas could suffice, as he put it, for many years to come (BBC: April 3).

In a statement the NASAR organization of Afghanistan announced that the Afghan Muslim nation is determined to continue its armed struggle till the fall of Soviet puppet regime in Kabul and the establishment of the rule of Islam in Afghanistan. The statement says the Geneva accord does not have any bearing on our armed struggle and we ask the entire Afghan Muslim nation to further intensify the struggle. On the other hand in a statement, Harkat-e-Islami Afghanistan based in Tehran has recently condemned the Geneva accord and announced that the holy jehad of the Afghan Muslim nation will continue till the fall of the marxist regime in Kabul and the establishment of an Islamic government in Afghanistan (VIRA: April 20).

In Pakistan, Afghan guerilla leaders marked the tenth anniversary of communist take over in Afghanistan with rallies in refugee camps, at which they denounced the communist coup. They declared that the war would go on until the present regime in Kabul had been replaced by an Islamic government (Radio Kabul: April 26).

Meeting of the Interim Government Held

Leaders of Afghan Resistance Movement held a meeting in Islamabad, which they described as the first meeting of the cabinet of their interim government. The Islamic Unity of Afghan Mujahideen announced that the meeting discussed the formation of the new government and other problems, Mr. Hikmatyar and Engineer Ahmad Shah also attended the meeting. Alliances leaders will soon send their representatives to Afghanistan to select a safe site for the establishment of their interim government (BBC: April 18).

The Afghan Mujahideen have rejected a proposal made by Afghan President Najibullah to establish demilitarized zone along the border with Pakistan. Dr. Najibullah who submitted the plan on 25th of April, said it was part of his government's policy of reconciliation and was

designed to facilitate the return of Afghan refugees. The Mujahideen say the refugees will only return to their homeland when Soviet troops have left Afghanistan and when the communist government in Kabul hands over the power (Radio Netherlands: April 26).

IUAM's Council of Justice

Mr. Hikmatyar has asked IUAM's Council of Justice that now when the Russians have decided to withdraw their troops, we should issue a decree to put on trial all those who supported the alien forces. He said, the people whose hands are stained with blood of the Afghans should be awarded severe punishments after trial, Mr. Hikmatyar also said that the Council of Justice should announce that no Soviet soldier will be exchanged now so that these soldiers may be used to bring back those Afghan who take shelter in Soviet Union by fleeing with the Red Army (BBC: April 15).

A report says that the Governor of Baghlan province, Sultan Mahmood Arbab, who was recently captured by the Mujahideen, was sentenced to death by a Mujahideen court. It may be recalled that he was one of the feudal and capitalist of Baghlan province (VIRA: April 5).

3 — NATIONALITIES POLICY

A session of the central council of Hazara nationality was held on April 18, to welcome the successful conclusion of Geneva talks on a political solution of the issues around Afghanistan and successful conclusion of National Assembly elections. Through a message greeting were sent to President Najibullah on the occasion (Kabul Times: April 21).

Religion

Complete recitation of Holy Quran will be carried out in mosques of the eleventh precinct of Kabul city. 206 Qaries (reciters of Holy Quran) will participate in the first ten days of Ramadan (fast month) in the recitation in 103 mosques, 164 and 156 Qaries in the second ten days period of the holy month of Ramadan in 82 and 78 mosques respectively. On the invitation of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Religious Trusts a number of Qaries have arrived recently in Kabul (Kabul Times: April 23).

The birth anniversary of Hazrat Hujat Ibn Hassan Al Askari, the 11th Imam of Shiite sect was marked on 2nd April in a function sponsored by Ulema and clergymen of the Kabul City Council (Kabul Times: April 4).

The 290th anniversary of Khalsa sect was marked in a grand function in Karte Parwan temple on April 13, in Kabul. In Afghanistan Hindus and Sikhs celebrate this festival with great joy, devotion and fervour on April 13 every year. Man Singh, a soldier of battalion No. 141 of eighth division and a participant of Baisakhi celebrations said that "as we happily celebrate this religious day, we would like to express gratitude to the revolutionary government. To mark this day the government has granted leave to all Hindu and Sikh soldiers and army personnel for a week. I appreciate this decision of the government and pledge to serve till the last drop of my blood for the suffering people of Afghanistan (Kabul Times: April 18).

Islam Is The State Religion

Responding to the will of all the people of the country, the President declares once again explicitly that the sacred religion of Islam is the religion of the people of Afghanistan and the state considers it as among its obligations to respect, observe and the fundamentals of this outstanding religion. The President directs all the organs concerned not to permit any individual to show disrespect to the religious beliefs of our pious people by breaking the fast or persuading others to that end. During the month of Ramadan all restaurants and hotels are closed during day time. Those who act against this rule are subject to legal prosecution (Kabul Times: April 19).

New Mosque

Construction work of Hussaini Congregational Mosque in the third part of Khair Khana Mena has completed. It was inaugurated in a function on April 15. The mosque building is in concrete and has cost more than two million Afghanis (Kabul Times: April 20).

4 — ECONOMY

The 8th periodic session of the permanent commission for economic cooperation between the governments of the RA and the Soviet Union was held on April 3, in Kabul. The Afghan delegation was led by Mohammad Aziz and the Soviet delegation by Murakovsky. The results of the implementation of the decisions of the 7th session of the commission, the fulfilment of mutual commitments on technical and economic cooperation, in direct relations, results of implementation on protocol on exchange of goods between the RA and the USSR in the year 1987 and the prospects of Afghan-Soviet trade in 1988 were scrutinized at the session (Kabul Times: April 7).

Protocols Signed

A protocol of economic cooperation between the Republic of Afghanistan and the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) was signed on April 2 in Kabul. Signing the protocol, the member countries of the CMEA have expressed willingness on establishing bilateral and multi-lateral projects in Afghanistan. It was also agreed that the first session of the experts of both sides be held in August 1988 at the headquarters of the CMEA and the next session of joint commission be held in 1989 in Warsaw, Poland (Kabul Times: April 4).

The protocol of the eighth session of the permanent commission for economic cooperation between the RA and the Soviet Union as well as a number of other documents relating to bilateral cooperation were signed on April 6, in Kabul. Documents were also exchanged on the continuation of economic gratis aid to the RA in 1988 in the field of public health, education, growth of mass media and communications valued at 30 million roubles, including the agreement dated March 26, 1987 and the protocol dated April 18, 1987, between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union which had not been utilized during 1987. Another document exchanged was regarding the assistance in commissioning of the Afghan-Soviet cooperation project including the July 11, 1972 agreement on technical-economical cooperation for one year, as also on the renewal of time schedule in rendering assistance in carrying on the geological survey in Afghanistan in accordance with an agreement for one year (Kabul Times: April 9).

A protocol on the delivery of equipment and spare parts to different departments for the year 1989 was signed in the State Committee for planning between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. As per this protocol, the Soviet Union will render technical and economic assistance to power energy, geology, gas and chemical industries transport and irrigation, construction, education, public health and agriculture projects in Afghanistan (Kabul Times: April 18).

A protocol on construction and concreting of the head dams and water canals in Kunduz province was signed between the Province and technical department of Ministry of Irrigation of Tajak-SSR recently. On the basis of the protocol, the head dam of Naqi canal, irrigation canals of state farms covering an area of 63,000 hectares of land in Kunduz province, Orta Blakhi state farm and the head dam of Archi district canal will be constructed and concretized on modern lines (Kabul Times: April 18).

A protocol on cooperation for the future development of Helmand province was signed between Helmand and Saratov provinces on

16 April in Kabul. The protocol was signed by the Deputy Chairmen of the Executive Committees of these provinces (Kabul Times: April 20).

Projects Completed

The Council of Ministers has approved 401 new projects. 295 projects were registered in the capital and 106 projects in the provinces in 1987. These projects involving a total investment of 8 billion Afghanis would give employment to 25,000 persons. Among these, 230 projects in the capital and 35 in the provinces were completed and they have started functioning (Kabul Times: April 2).

The Andkhoai plastic factory set up with 35.3 million Afghanis, was inaugurated on April 12. The factory will produce annually 17,000 plastic utensils and 200,000 kg plastic bags. Also the Barkat Plastic Factory which was inactive for some time was reopened on April 10. The factory began activity with an initial capital of Afghanis 9,300,000 and working capital of twelve million Afghanis with the government assistance. The factory is equipped to produce 2,000 pairs of shoes a day and employs 50 persons (Kabul Times: April 13).

Masoon construction factory set up with an initial capital of 3.3 million Afghanis and a working capital of Afghanis 1.2 million was inaugurated on April 7. 32 private entrepreneurs are share holders of the project established with the assistance of the government's Department for Development of Private Investment. 200 sq metres of marble stone, 20,000 sq metres of cement bricks, 20,000 sq metres of terrazzo bricks, 20,000 sq metres of stone and 3,000 cubic metres of gravel will be produced annually by the factory (Kabul Times: April 13).

On the eve of 10th anniversary of April Revolution, Aziz Zada chocolate factory was inaugurated. The factory established with an initial capital of 5 million Afghanis and working capital of 13 million Afghanis will produce annually 120,000 tons of chocolate (Kabul Times: April 12).

Industrial Production

Pul-e-Charkhi woollen mills produced in 1987 woollen cloth, blankets and carpets valued at 255 million Afghanis. Carpet weaving machines were purchased at a cost of 2,200,000 dollars from the GDR. The renovation of the factory as per the five year socio-economic plan is estimated to cost 425 million Afghanis. The factory produced 82,000 metres of blankets, 225,172 metres of woollen cloth and 21,000 sq metres carpets. The factory is established in the public sector under the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs (Kabul Times: April 14).

The carpet weaving unit of Badghis, functioning presently in the

private sector, has produced in the last one year 550 sq metres carpets and 2,230 sq metres long rapped carpets valued at 11,030,000 Afghanis (Kabul Times: April 3).

1682 tons of ginned cotton were produced in the last Afghan year (ended March 20, 1988), in Spinzar Enterprise of Kunduz province. A spokesman of the enterprise said that 678 tons of vegetable oil and 163 tons of soap was also produced in this period. 3,122 tons of fertilizers and 1,380 tons of cotton seeds were distributed free of charge while 1,609 tons of fertilizers, 23 tons of vegetable oil, 150 tons of oil cake 113 tons of cotton waste, 20,000 cakes of soap and 20 tons of linter cotton were distributed against the delivery of cotton to the cotton growers (Kabul Times: April 1).

Banking

As per a decision taken last year the construction and Mortgage Bank has raised its working capital from 100 million to 400 million Afghanis and its paid-up capital from 200 million to 500 million Afghanis thus increasing the capacity of loans granted by it for construction purposes from 100,000 to 250,000 Afghanis, said the President of the Bank. The loans given by the bank last year to state officials workers, officers, retired personnel, state institutions and enterprises as well as social organisations touched 72 million Afghanis (Kabul Times: April 21).

Economic Reconstruction of Afghanistan

First session of the Economic Rehabilitation Commission on Afghanistan was held in Kabul in which ways and means were discussed to enhance technical assistance to Afghanistan. The Afghan Deputy Prime Minister expressed the confidence that assistance of the countries in the fold of Bilateral Economic Ministerial Council prove vital in the accomplishment of national economy. He said that 130 industrial and other projects were constructed in Afghanistan only with the help of the Soviet Union (Radio Moscow: April 3).

The conference of social and scientific personalities of the RA, the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. to study the situation in Afghanistan was held recently. Views were exchanged on the urgent need of assistance to Afghan emigrants aid for building economic foundations and assistance to private sector. The U.S. delegates expressed their readiness to render assistance to the people of Afghanistan and rehabilitation of the economy of the country. Addressing the session the head of the American delegation said we are convinced that foreign assistance, as main factor would help ensure peace in Afghanistan. We would encourage the people of the United States and charity organizations to assist the

people of Afghanistan in rehabilitation and to overcome the numerous economic loss in the war. The Soviet delegation explained their views with regard to the task of rehabilitation and the important role that the USA and the Soviet Union can play in this regard. A member of the Soviet delegation said that our aim is the economic rehabilitation of Afghanistan and extending assistance to the people of Afghanistan at the earliest (Kabul Times: April 23).

The Japanese government says it is ready to take positive measures to help Afghanistan to recover from its war damages. The government will despatch an official to the U.N. peace keeping operation to observe the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. This will be the first time Japanese personnel have participated in such a UN operation. The government also plan to share the cost of U.N. peace observation duties in the area. The government will also extend financial and other forms of help to the returning Afghan refugees. Japanese Official Development Assistance to Afghanistan may also be resumed. It has been suspended since 1979, when Soviet troops entered that country (Radio Japan: April 11).

Welcoming the signing of the Afghanistan agreement, a West German government spokesman said "it is hoped that country will return to the International Community as a neutral and non-aligned state." It has now been assumed that the Soviet Union will withdraw its troops from Afghanistan by the agreed date. He promised West German assistance in the repatriation of Afghan refugees and for economic reconstruction (VOG: April 15).

The West German Foreign Minister, Hans Dietrich Genscher wants the European Community to help in reconstruction of war torn Afghanistan. He said at the meeting with the UN under Secretary General Diego Cordovez who acts as mediator between Afghanistan and Pakistan at the Geneva negotiations (VOG: April 13).

Agriculture

Over one billion Afghanis have been earmarked for improving irrigation networks in 1987. It is envisaged that 256 head dams, 500 underground canals (Kariz) and various irrigation establishments will be repaired and rebuilt under the plan. Irrigation link will be extended to over 850,000 hectares of land in different parts of the country besides this, 1,900 hectares will come under irrigation in Kokcha project of Badakhshan province and Lashkary project of Nimroz province. Similarly Irrigation networks of Helmand valley irrigation project which irrigates an area of 8,000 hectares of land will be improved. 900 hectares of new land will be reclaimed in Sardeh area of Ghazni and 120,000

hectares pasture land will be supplied with irrigation under the plan (Kabul Times: April 16).

In Parwan province 123 tons of improved wheat seeds and 1,340 tons of fertilizers costing Afghanis 13,195,000 were distributed through cooperative to the peasants during 1987-88. Peasants were given 3,700,000 Afghanis in loans and pesticides and insecticides costing Afghanis 668,000, (Kabul Times: April 12).

5 — EDUCATION, YOUTH AND HEALTH

Education

A spokesman of the Ministry of Higher Education told a BIA correspondent that the Soviet Union annually grants 1,650 scholarships to the Afghan side for training national cadres. Over 10,000 Afghan students are presently studying in the Soviet Union. After the Revolution over 1,600 engineers have graduated from Kabul Poly-Technic. Nineteen scholars have to date successfully defended their Ph.D thesis, currently, there are 65 Soviet experts teaching in the education institutions (Kabul Times: April 21).

Dr. Najibullah attended the inauguration ceremony of the Islamic Research University in the premises of Kabul University on April 14. The ceremony was also attended by the Afghan Prime Minister, Sultan Ali Keshtmand, head of the National Front Central Committee, Abdul Rahim Hatif, members of the Afghan PDP CC Politburo and Secretariat, members of State Islamic Advisory Council and Supreme Council of Ulema and Mashaikh, delegations of Islamic Affairs and Auqaf, Ministers and a large number of students and teachers of religious institutions, spiritual leaders and social organizations, Ambassadors of Islamic countries in Kabul, teachers and students of Kabul University (Radio Kabul: April 15).

The historic significance of Geneva agreements was explained on April 16 by the teachers in all schools of Afghanistan (Kabul Times: April 20).

It has been decided that the cost of breakfast of students of primary schools be distributed to them in cash at the end of every week. A spokesman of the Ministry of Education said that 223 million Afghanis have been allocated to 47 primary schools of the Kabul city for this purpose this year. The sum is given to students of 1-5 grades (Kabul Times: April 14).

Education in the Border Provinces

Over 48,000 children have been admitted to primary schools in

the current Afghan year in the border provinces of the country raising the total number of students in border provinces to 175,241. Over 20 schools have newly been set up at a cost of 70 million Afghanis and 30 schools rehabilitated in border provinces. 3,500 students were admitted in 104 schools of Badakhshan province raising the total number of students in the province to 23,352. There are 13,655 students in 34 schools of Kunar province, 1,109 of them in the first grade. Around 11.6 million Afghanis have been allocated for building two schools, one pioneer palace and rehabilitation of other schools and hostels in the provinces. In Ningarhar province, 10,342 students have been admitted in the first grade. There are in all 52,150 students studying in 73 schools. Five new schools were built in the province. As many as 8,081 students are studying in 22 schools which has 133 teachers in Paktia province of them 1,335 students were fresh admissions in the first grade. One school was built in the province. In 34 schools of Qandahar province, there are 16,000 students, 2,050 of them newly admitted. There are 400 teachers in these schools, out of 12,000 students in Helmand province, 720 students were admitted in the first grade and the total number of students in the province comes to 3,713. Over 46,000 students are receiving training in 94 schools having 1,042 teachers in Herat province of the above 12,025 students were newly admitted. In Farah province, there are in all 7,277 students, of them 3,329 students are newly admitted. Over 7,000 boys and girls are studying in 25 schools of Khost division. There are 132 teachers. 3 million Afghanis have been allocated for construction of a school in the division (Kabul Times: April 23).

Youth

A cooperation protocol was signed on April 22 between Institute of young cadres of the DYOA and the higher school of the Leninist Komsomol of Soviet Union. Based on the protocol the higher school of Leninist Komsomol will send teachers and prepare books and teaching materials for the institute of young cadres during the year 1988-89 (Kabul Times: April 23).

Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan received in his office on 19 April a delegation of the Leninist Young Communist League of the USSR led by V.I. Meromenko, First Secretary of its Central Committee. Farid Ahmad Mazdak, alternate member politburo of the PDPA CC and First Secretary of the DYOA CC also attended the meeting. Views were exchanged on the international youth movement and extension of cooperation between youth organizations of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union (Kabul Times: April 21).

Health

The extension project of Indira Gandhi Institution of Child Health undertaken at a cost of 285 million Afghanis from the gratis aid of India has progressed more than half and is expected to be completed by the end of the year. With the completion of the project the number of beds in the hospital will increase from 250 to 400. According to an IGICH source, the construction of Polyclinic of the Institute is progressing rapidly. This well-equipped clinic could receive 700 patients daily (Kabul Times: April 6).

An average of 200 patients are treated daily at a central polyclinic built through Soviet assistance. Last year a total of 70,000 patients were treated at the clinic. Also medicines costing 1.5 million Afghanis were distributed free of charge to the patients last year. The clinic which has 33 wards has a staff of 40 nurses, 3 pharmacists, 14 technicians and other personnel. 22 Soviet doctors are working in the polyclinic which has also branches in Khaikhana Mena and Khushhal Khan Mena (Kabul Times: April 16).

The number of physicians in the country will go up by 25% and pharmacists by 13% in the first five year plan of development (1986-91) said a spokesman of the Ministry of Public Health. There are now 8,608 beds in the hospitals, of these 5,155 beds are under the Ministry of Public Health. Last year (1987) 51 health centres were built or rehabilitated in 14 provinces and over 1,000 people were given artificial limbs (Kabul Times: April 12).

A meeting entitled "Health for All and All for Health" was held on April 7, in the Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Afghanistan in Kabul (Kabul Times: April 10).

6 — SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

A Conference on the Situation in Afghanistan Held

A conference of social and scientific personalities from the Republic of Afghanistan, United States of America and the Soviet Union to study the situation in Afghanistan was inaugurated on April 19 in Mailmapal Hotel by Sultan Ali Keshtmand. The conference sponsored by the Academy of Sciences with cooperation of the Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization of Afghanistan was attended by 17 representatives from the United States and 15 from the Soviet Union. They discussed and exchanged views with their Afghan counter-parts on the policies of the RA and the situation in the country following the signing of the Geneva Accord (Kabul Times: April 21).

Medals and Badges Awarded

Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan issued badges of April Revolution and the promotion cards to the officers of the armed forces who are promoted to the ranks of Major General and Colonel, in Kabul on April 25 (Radio Kabul: April 27).

In accordance with a Presidential decree, the following officers of the Afghan Armed Forces were awarded the Medals of Saur Revolution:

1. The member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and the Afghan Defence Minister, Mohammad Rafi.
2. Member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and the Home Minister, Sayyid Mohammad Gulabzai.
3. The Afghan Minister for State Security, Lt. General Ghulam Farooq Yaqoobi.
4. The Communication Minister, Brigadier Mohammad Aslam Watanyar (Radio Kabul: April 26).

The honorary medal of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) was presented on March 31st to Najibullah for his service and active contribution to world peace and settlement of regional disputes. The presentation was made by Dr. Murad Ghahib, acting President of AAPSO (Kabul Times: April 3).

The order of Red Banner was awarded under a Presidential decree to Kraft Bumbal, GDR Ambassador in Kabul for promoting friendly relations between parties, governments and peoples of the Republic of Afghanistan and the GDR on April 2, by Najimuddin Kawyani, Member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC (Kabul Times: April 4).

Sentences Of Prisoners Rermitted, Condoned in Afghanistan

The Presidential decree about condonation and remission of the sentences of prisoners "under the policy of National Reconciliation and on the eve of the tenth anniversary of the Saur Revolution, condonation and remission in the penalties of the following kinds of prisoners is announced in accordance with the constitution of Afghanistan:—

1. Those prisoners who have been sentenced to ten years in imprisonment.
2. All female prisoners.
3. All the male prisoners who are over fifty-five years of age.
4. All children in prisons.
5. All those prisoners who are seriously ill.

Similarly, death penalty of all those who have not so far been executed is converted into twenty years imprisonment. Besides, all

those prisoners who have been fined by court, are allowed to pay their fine in monthly instalments, if they are not in a position to pay the same in a lumpsum. Similarly, the punishment of all those will be condoned who have been tried in absentia provided they willingly return home within three months. All the foreign prisoners, who have completed one third of their sentences, are also given the benefit of condonation" (Radio Kabul: April 26).

The Gate of Peace

The Afghan President, Najibullah laid the foundation stone of the Gate of Peace, on the airport road, in Kabul, on the eve of the tenth anniversary of the Saur Revolution. The Prime Minister, Sultan Ali Keshtmand, the member of the Politburo of the PDP's Central Committee, Saleh Mohammad Zairey and the Secretary of Party Committee of Kabul citizens, Daud Razamyar were also present on the occasion (Radio Kabul: April 26).

Delegations Arrived

A delegation of the Indian artists led by Congress-I Member of the Indian Parliament and renowned film actor, Sunil Dutt arrived in Kabul to participate in the 10th anniversary of the Saur Revolution. According to the Bakhtar News Agency correspondent, officials of Radio, TV and Artist's Union, protocol officials, the Foreign Ministry and Indian diplomats based in Kabul received the delegation at the Kabul International Airport. The delegation will participate in the youth's Jashan. During its stay in Kabul, the delegation will meet with the citizens of Kabul (Radio Kabul: April 27).

Sayed Amanuddin Amin, First Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Chairman of Afghan-Soviet Friendship Association met on April 11, the delegation of the Union of Associations of friendship and cultural relations of Armenian-SSR led by its Chairman and Minister of Social Services, Roding Vardanian. Discussion were held at the meeting on cooperation between Afghan and Soviet friendship associations and other matters of mutual interest (Kabul Times: April 13).

Seminars Held

An educational seminar on behalf of Association of Afghan Journalists was held in Kabul on March 30, to observe the 510th death anniversary of intellectual, poet and great saint of the country, Maulana Nooruddin Abdul Rehman Jami. The seminar was attended by intellectuals of Science Academy of the Republic of Afghanistan, prominent writers, teachers of Kabul University, prominent Ulema, cultural

figures, members of Journalists Union and large number of admirers of Maulana Jami (Radio Kabul: March 31).

A two-day scientific seminar sponsored by the Writer's Association opened in the hall of Ariana Hotel on March 30, to mark the 510th death anniversary of Maulana Nooruddin Abdul Rahman Jami, distinguished poet, scholar and renowned mystic of the country.

The traditional Mushaira commemorating Rahman Baba, renowned Pashtoon poet was held on 3rd April, in Kabul. Ajmal Khattak and several writers and poets participated. Ghulam Nabi Yosufi, Deputy Minister of Frontiers and Tribal Affairs spoke about the personality and poetry of Rahman Baba. 42 poets recited their poems at the function dealing with peace, national reconciliation and solidarity of nationalities, tribes and ethnic groups of the country (Kabul Times: April 4).

Exhibitions Opened

On the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the Republic of Hungary, an exhibition of photographs on political and social life in Hungary was opened on April 6, in the exhibition Hall of the State Committee for culture (Kabul Times: April 10).

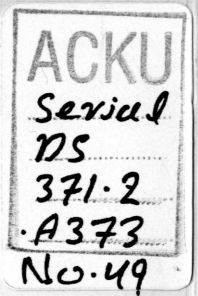
On the eve of the 10th anniversary of April Revolution and first joint Afghan-Soviet space flight, an exhibition of political posters was opened on April 13 in the cultural club of Artists Union of the RA. Saleh Mohammad Zairey and Haider Masood, members of Politburo, Abdul Rahim Hatif, Chairman of the NF of Afghanistan, members of Artist's Union and Ambassadors in Kabul were present at the function (Kabul Times: April 16).

The World Theatre Day Marked

The world theatre day was marked on March 27 in a function in the Cultural Club of Ghafoor Breshna. Attending the function were Abdul Hamid Muhtat, Deputy Prime Minister, Abdul Qayum Beid, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Culture, Mashur Jamal, Chairman of the Central Council of Artist's Union, a large number of artists and leaders of theatre in the country (Kabul Times: April 3).

The spring camp of Artist's Union was held on April 16 in Babur Garden. The camp was organized by the State Committee for Radio-TV and Cinematography and the Artist's Union of the Republic of Afghanistan. Artists of the Radio and TV gave a concert for the audience of the camp (Kabul Times: April 20).

Mela Gul Narange (Orange Flower Festival) of Ningarhar province was inaugurated with joy and enthusiasm on April 10, at the Local Jamhuriate garden. Poets recited their poems on the festival (Kabul Times: April 13).



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